Madurai
Vol - 1156

Madurai
VOL. No.
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Madurai Collectorate

VOL. 1156

To George Parish Esquire

Collector of the Provinces of

Madura & Dindigul

Sir,

Para. 1st. I have the honor to forward my Report on the Triennial Settlement of the Province of Madura for Fuslies 1218, 19 and 20 just concluded by me agreeable to Instructions received from you.

2d. A reference to your Report on a similar arrangement in the Cittah of Dindigul, together with con[...] personal Communication having acquainted me fully with the principle on which the Rent was to be fixed and the precautions to be adopted in order to secure the punctual realization of the Government dues, I trust it will be deemed unnecessary to enter here in any detail not connected with the immediate result of the Settlement now submitted to you.

3d. In confining my Report to this Subject I shall however have occasion to advert to certain points which induced me to deviate in some instances from the Strict Letter of your Instructions, a deviation dictated by Policy and a liberal interpretation

Spirit of your orders. —

4th The Jumma you were pleased to assess on each Talook, having as you will remember been deduced from an average of Receipts, I strictly adhered to this De=mand, where no objection could be urged against it but you are no doubt aware that in all Revenue Arrange=ments, which on general Principles may appear highly just and equitable may frequently in detail require modification so as to render them strictly applicable to local Situations and Circumstances. —

5th You will accordingly observe an Increase in some Villages and a Decrease in others but I trust the detailed Accounts and the general Explanation & herewith forwarded, contain ample Evidence to justify this Arrangement.

6th Considering however that the causes which produced a temporary Decrease in the Cultivation in some Talook's ought not to operate to the prejudice of the general Principle of Assessment adopted by you, and that by present regard to the actual Condition of the People, we lay the foundation of future Prosperi=ty, I regulated the Demands of Government in Fusly 1218 with reference to the Cultivation previously carried on adding the difference decrease to the Revenues of Fuslies 1219 & 20. —

7th

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7th This arrangement I am happy to state has succeeded as I could have desired, the Inhabitants assenting to my Proposals without hesitation - Some objections were made by a few Individuals to receive the Rent for so long a period - fearful in case of failure in the Crop, they could not be answerable for the Amount - The explanations however which I afforded them, of the advantages to be derived from the present system, by an extended Cultivation, and a due regard to the Interests of their under-tenants - overcame all their objections & enabled me to complete a Settlement which I trust will be satisfactory -

8th In several Villages an advance of Tuccavy as well as Maramut was required, and which I was induced to promise - having personally enquired into the particular wants of the people and inspected the actual State of the Tanks - The Tuccavy amounts to S. Pa 354: 24: 64 - The Statement of Tank Repairs is preparing and will be forwarded whenever it is received - Whatever Sums may eventually be disbursed on this Account, no mis-application of it by the Renters need be apprehended - having stipulated

and

with them, that the Circar Servants shall superintend the execution of the works - and should you approve of it I beg to suggest the propriety of deputing people from the Huzzoor to examine them, when completed. -

9th. The regularity with which the Renters discharged their Kists in the preceding year or Fusly 1217 induced me to offer the present Rent to them in preference to others, and which with few exceptions was cheerfully accepted, those who declined, could either give no Security or were dismissed on Complaints of Embezzlements preferred and proved against them

10th. Having concluded these remarks - I shall now enter into a detail of my proceedings - The first place I proceeded to, was Perdomunglom - In your Instructions I was directed to form the Settlement of this Talook for the present Fusly on that of the preceding year, - and to make a progressive Increase on the two succeeding - the Total Cultivation for Fusly 1218 was Nunjeh Caw.^s^ 2785. ar. 13 and Poonjeh Co 41,919. ar. 13½ in Fusly 17. Nunjeh Caw.^s^ 3053. ar. 9½ Poonjeh 41,638. 4. being an increase on the Cultivation of the present year of Caw.^s^ 13. ar. 13 - but a Decrease in the Actual Amount of Revenue of S.P. 155. f 10. c 29. this decrease has been

occasion

occasioned by a Quantity of water overflowing the
Lands which deprived the Inhabitants of the bene-
-fit of a second Crop an advantage they had enjoy'd
in Fusly 1217 and which was the cause of so great
an increase in the Revenue - The assessment fixed
for Fusly 1218 is S.Ps 39,727 f 27 c 62 - for Fusly 1219 - ...
S.Ps 40,129 f 22 c 74 and 1220 - S.Ps 40,929 f 23 c 58 Total th...
years Rent S.Ps 120,786 f 29 c 34 Increase S.Ps 737 f 23 c 52

11th I next proceeded to Sholavundan to settle
that Talook and Aunypoor, altho' I was directed by ...
to form the Settlement of the former Talook on an av-
-rage of Fuslies 1215. 16. & 17. - yet as I before stated
I thought it advisable to fix the Rent on the actual
Cultivation of the year, annexing the difference to
the Summa of Fusly 1219. & 20. the Total Cultiva-
-tion of Nunjeh is Caw 6197 as 3/4 and Poonjeh Caw 3,234 ...
in Fusly 1217 Nunjeh Caw 6195 as 1 1/2 and Poonjeh Caw 3,361 ...
Increase Caw 125 as 8 - Amount Revenue for Fusly 1218
S.Ps 14,218 f 20 c ... for Fusly 1219 S.Ps 14,599 f 19 c 75 - for Fu...
1220 - S.Ps 14,665 f 44 c 39 Total of Fuslies 1218. 19. & 2...
S.Ps 43,483 f 39 c 34 Increase 93. 26. 65.

12th Here it may be necessary to remark that in
the Village of Velaumputty of this Talook a dreadful
fever raged for nearly two Months, and in that short
period [illegible] less than 148 Inhabitants -

The

The Principal Ryots having represented to me their inability to prosecute their Labour to the usual extent, unless some remission was made in their terms of Rent – I considered it my duty to give the most attentive Consideration to their Claim – convinced that in every situation of general distress or calamity, such as the present – the British Government have ever been forward to extend relief, to its Subjects by the most indulgent gathering of their Dues. —

13th In Aungoor the Cultivation of Fusly 1218 Nunjeh Cawt. 1,847 – as. 7¼ – Poonjeh Cawt. 25,946 as. 10¼ – & Fusly 1217 Nunjeh Cawt. 1,995 – as. 11 – Poonjeh Cawt. 26,978 – as. 7¾ Decrease Cawt. 1,180 – as. ¾ The Decrease in the Cultivation is owing to a partial failure of rain in the Months of Auny and Audy or June and July – but the Jumma is nevertheless satisfactory in its amount Viz. Fuslies 1218 – S.P. 20,947 f. .. c. 13 1219 – S.P. 22,861 – f. 1 – c. 35 – & 1220 – S.P. 23,739 f. 2 – c. 21 Total three years S.P. 67,547 f. 3 – c. 69 Increase S.P. 674 – f. 10.67

14th I next proceeded to Mellore to form the Settlement of that Talook and Porumboor – the Cultivation of the Former is Nunjeh Cawt. 8,203 as. 11½ Poonjeh Cawt. 7,816 – as. [illegible] ... and of Fusly 1217 Nunjeh

[illegible] jeh

-jeh Caws. 8213 - as. ½ - Poorjeh Caws. 9217 - as. 9½ Decrease Caws. 1610. as. 9¼

15th. From particular enquiry which I made I found the cause of the Decrease in the Cultivation both in Perembore, and Nellore, was owing to a Decrease in the Number of Ryots - a large portion of the Lands having hitherto been Cultivated by Pairwaddies or Inhabitants of adjoining Pollams. -

16th. The Inhabitants of Velleacoondum and Valeapetty two neighbouring Zemindaries, Contributed greatly to the Cultivation of the lands of the above Talooks, but for the last three years, their numbers have gradually diminished and in fusly 1218 very few appear to have offered their assistance. It is necessary to remark that the introduction of the permanent system in the Poligar Countries has led to the most liberal encouragement to extend the Cultivation in their own Pollams, and that the em-ployment of those Ryots on their own Estates, who were formerly in the habit of emigrating to Circar Villages - both for protection and livelihood is the best proof I can adduce of the benefit of the Coun-try has experienced from the adjustment of the Re-venue on permanent foundations - The Amount Rent of Nellore as Settled for fuslies 1218 is S.P. 15,898. f. 17 - c. 5 1219 - S.P. 17449. f. 21. c. 45. & 1220 - S.P. 17721. f. 2 c. 26 - Total three

three Years S.P. 5,1068 — f 42. c 41. Increase S.P. 73. f 20. c 21. —

7th. The Cultivation in Toumboor for fusly 1210 was Nunjeh Caw. 4,226. a 1¼ Poonjeh Caw. 3,282. a 15¼ or, fusly 1217 Nunjeh Caw. 4,187 a 5¼ and Poonjeh Caw. 3,858. a 6¼ Decrease Caw. 538 — a 11 — The reasons assigned for the decrease in Nellore apply equally to this Talook. It will therefore I hope be considered unnecessary to repeat them. The Rent settled for fuslies 1210 is S.P. 9075 — f 4. c 10. 1219 — S.P. 9622. f 5. c 31 & 1220 — S.P. 9826. f 3. c 58. Total three years S.P. 28,523 f 13. c 11. increase S.P. 574. f 44. c 39.

18th. The Cultivation in Nuttom for fusly 1210 is Nunjeh Caw. 3,182. a 6¼ — Poonjeh Caw. 15,156 — a 6¼ and that of fusly 1217 Nunjeh Caw. 2773 — a ¾. Poonjeh Caw. 15704 — a 9¼ Decrease Caw. 138. a 14. This was occasioned by a want of rain in the early part of the Season — The Rent settled for fuslys 1218 is S.P. 15,277. f 25 c 73 — 1219 — S.P. 15419 f 32. c 46 & 1220 — S.P. 15511 f 28 c 10. Total three years S.P. 46,208. f 42. c 49 Increase S.P. 2,520. f 27. c 16. —

19th. Having finished at Nellore I next proceeded to Secondermallay to settle Maudaktolum — The Cultivation of the present year is Nunjeh Caw. 8,440 — a 15¼ Poonjeh Caw. 5,302. a 7¼ — that of fusly 1217 — Nunjeh Caw. 8,204. a 8½ Poonjeh Caw. 5,627 a 8¼ Decrease Caw. 88. a 10¼ Rent settled for fusly 1210 — S.P. 18,344. f 1. c 50 — 1219 — S.P. 18,242. f 30. c 20. & 1220 — S.P. 18,421. f 34. c 79 Total three years S.P. 55,008 — f 21. c 69

Increase

Increase 2363 - 1. 64.

20th. Having detailed to you my proceedings as applicable to each Talook - I beg leave to refer you to the accompanying Statements for an abstract of the Settlement -

21st. You will thence observe, that the public resources, of the Province of Madura have gradually increased in a proportion to leave little room to doubt, but that in the Annual adjustment of the Revenue since its transfer to the Company, due regard has been evinced to the happiness of the People and the Permanancy of the public Welfare The Kists, as you will have noticed, are realized with punctuality and I anticipate the fond Hope, that at the expiration of the Lease - its advantages to Government, will be found not less evident than its benefit to the Public

22d. Before I conclude I think it my duty to State that the Conduct of every public Servant who accompanied me on Circuit as well as the District Establishment, has been such as to Claim my entire approbation

Tippacollum
20th June 1809.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most Obedient
humble Servant
(Signed) R. Peter

To the President and Members of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Your Board are already acquainted with the great sickness which has of late prevailed in Dindigul and I have now the honor to inform you that of the whole Hoozoor Kucharee only 2 Writers, and the Sheristadar, remain fit for duty. I therefore fear it will not be in my power to forward the Monthly Accounts in Due time

Dindigul 1st May 1811. (Signed) R. Peter

To the President & Members of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Para 1st I have the honor to report to you that since my last address under date the 1st Instant the only Servants then fit for Duty, have since been seized with the fever.

2d Under these Circumstances I have to request your early authority for the employment of such a number of Servants as may be indispensably necessary to Carry on the Current business of the Cutcherry.

3d Their number and the Amount of their pay will

To the President and Members
of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Para. 1st. Mr. Parish being prevented by sickness from attending to business - I am directed by him to inform you, that some time previous to the receipt of your Secr. Letter of the 28th. of January he had observed the great deficiency in the Sale of Salt and had immediately s[et] on foot an Enquiry into the real causes of such defa[l]-cation. Fully aware of the difficulty of securing this Branch of Revenue against depredations - I should n[ot] hesitate to lay before you a full detail of any Malv[er]-sation - had any until now been discovered, I shall there-fore proceed to state the causes that have led to the extraordinary decrease in the Sale & Manufacture

of

of Salt as noticed by your Board —

1.st In the Months of September, October, November and December the Rains were so incessant as totally to preclude the possibility of Merchants resorting to the Pans, as they had been accustomed to do, the Salt was in consequence during those Months, sold only in trifling Quantities in the Villages in the Neighbourhood of the Pans. 2.d The Merchants from Mysore, were accustomed to come to the Pans in Ramnad in great Numbers, bringing with them from 4 to 5,000 Asses with which they departed for that Country laden with Salt — but since the increase in the Monopoly price of that Article this has ceased, at least any extent and indeed from

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from the information which I have been enabled to Collect - it seems that a very small portion of Salt is carried beyond the limits of the Coimbatoor District and a little to the eastward of it.

But what has tended more than any other cause to the decrease is the complete Change of Seasons on the coast - Ramnad which has hitherto seldom had the benefit of any Rain, except during the Actual Monsoons, has within the last twelve Month been never without heavy Showers - every two or three days - This Statement is taken from a Gentlemans observation Resident in the Province Confirmed by my own Reports from my Public Servants -

The result of the Change of Climate &

must

must be obvious. first precluding the Manufacture of Salt. second the destruction of it when collected in the Pans. In this manner a very large Quantity has been destroyed. A detailed Report of which shall be transmitted to you. after Completing my Report on the Revenues of Dindigul.

(Signed) R. Peter

Dindigul
15th May 1811

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will of Course depend on their activity and experience in Revenue Affairs, I trust I shall therefore be excused in Stating particulars - A Memorandum of the Servants employed shall be transmitted whenever I can Satisfactorily ascertain these points. -

Dindigul 20th May 1811.

(Signed) R. Peter

To the Accountant General
Fort St. George

Sir,

I have the honor to forward to you Replies to the different Queries contained in your Letter of the 21st January relative to the state of the Copper Currency of these Districts.

...ery first. The present state of Copper Currency in your District whether plentiful or scarce the Coins in what consists the Revenue & Bazar Rates at this

During the Nabobs Government it was customary to Coin annually Chiller Cash, which is the most Current Copper Coin in these Districts to the Amount of Four Lacs, but since the assumption of the Country by the Company, with the exception of one Lac coined by Mr. Wallace, the coinage has altogether ceased, and a scarcity has become the consequence. -

2d. The other Copper Coins Current are Chiller Aunay, and Shooly Cash. The Company's Exchange of Chiller is 1320 pr. Pagoda, and the Bazar Ex-change

-change is 792 - Aunay Cash 660 Buzar exchange 576
Shooly Cash 441½ Buzar Exchange 387¼ -

Query second. Whether the Copper Currency has recently undergone any, and what variation, and to what causes such variation is attributable

The Companys Rate of Exchange is at 80 Cash ℔r Cully fanam - The Copper Currency varies daily from 40 to 48 and is now at the rate of only 40 Cash ℔r Cully fanam. This is to be attributed as before stated to the Market not being furnished with Annual Supplies - but the principal reason to be assigned for the difference in the Exchange is the Monopoly which always prevails in large Buzars where by a union of Interest and Measures amongst the Chittys and Money dealers - they regulate the Exchange at pleasure in opposition to the best regulated checks, and thereby create an artificial Scarcity in any Coin - To such length has this been carried in Madura that the Magistrate has frequently been obliged to interfere - Complaints when preferred to Mr. Irwin ordered the Shroffs to issue the Cash at the fixed rate of 80 Cash ℔r Cully fanam - Some time after Mr. Oakes who was appointed Acting Judge ordered it to be issued at 72 Cash ℔r Cully fanam and lastly Mr. Cooney in the Month of   at 60 ℔r fanam Though these orders may have been obeyed it was

only

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only for a short time, and the Chetties then returne
to their old practices. —

[Query third — In what degree the variations in the Quantity of the Coins have affected their current value or exchange — the standard to which the exchange is compared, may be taken from any Coin that is most common in the Districts]

Formerly the rate of Exchange was 1320 Chit
Cash ℘r Pagoda, at present it is 792 making a Diff
-rence of 528 Cash or 40 ℘r Cent. The Ainay Cash wa
660 ℘r Pagoda at present it is 618 3/4 difference 41 1/4 or
6 1/4 ℘r Cent and the Shooly Cash was 441 1/2 ℘r Pagoda
at present it is 386 3/16 making a decrease of 55 5/16 or
12 1/2 ℘r Cent.

[Query fourth — On what Sources of supply the Copper Currency has hereto-fore depended. —]

The Chitter Cash, most Common in the Madu
District was coined during the Nabobs Government
by Chetties, Shroffs &ca who rented the Coinage fro
the Circar for 200 Chuckrums ℘r Annum, and wer
obliged to supply 4 Lacs annually in the Months
of March and April, and in order that the renter
might not suffer any loss from the Costs of Coinag
&ca they were allowed to issue it at half the Rate of
Exchange mentioned in the first Reply, or at the rate
of 40 Cash ℘r Fanam for the two Months and only fo
those two Months which insured them against all
losses. The Ainay Cash is current in Dindigul &
was first struck during Hyders Government. On th
Company assuming the Country. Mr Hurdis findin
a great scarcity, ordered the Chetties to Coin four Lac
at their own risk, since which no further Quantity ha
been

been coined. The Shooly or Cauky Cash is Current in Ramnad, and was formerly supplied by directions of the Rajah of that District, but since the afsumption of the Country, no farther Coinage has taken place.

Query fifth. Whether or not Supplies of Copper Coins are now required, & if required in what Quantity

From what has been already stated, it will appear that a large supply is required. Twelve Lacs would not be deemed insufficient to the present Demand.

Query Sixth. If the state of the Currency requires periodical supplies of fresh Coins, & if so, to what extent and at what period.

From the present state of the Copper Currency a periodical supply of Ten Lacs will be required & may be sent between the Months of January & April.

(Signed) R. Peter

May 1811

To the President and Members of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Para 1st. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Secretary's Letter of the 29th of April.

2d. It was my intention, previous to the receipt of this letter to have represented to you the difficulty which is experienced in Collecting the

Kist

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for the present Duty, had I not been in hopes that the speedy recovery of the Collector, would have rendered this Task unnecessary from me. But as you have been pleased to call upon me for an explanation of the Causes of the Actual Collections falling so far short of the Estimate. I shall proceed without further delay to state them —

3.d It has already been intimated to your Board, that a fever has been raging for a length of time in these Districts. It commenced in 1809 in one of the Divisions of Madura and has since gradually spread itself over the whole of the Countries both of Dindigul and Madura —

4.th At the commencement of 1810 the Mortality was great but from July of that year to the present date, as will be noticed by the Medical Committee now making enquiries. it has been beyond belief. Where the sufferers survive their debilitated state is such as to render them even incapable of cutting their Crops. which have in innumerable instances perished on the ground. the Ryots of the Neighbouring Villages from the same cause being unable to assist. In other Villages

again

again, where the Inhabitants have gained a little strength, so as to enable them to gather their Crops it has not been of sufficient duration being constantly subject to relapse to admit of their preparing it for the Market.

5th. Nor has the public Service experienced less inconvenience from the inability of the District Servants to attend to their duty — they have been most severe sufferers on the present Occasion, and the impossibility of replacing them from the general dread of Contagion, has produced difficulties in the general administration of the Revenue which can be better Conceived than I am willing to describe. —

6th. I only beg leave to mention one more Circumstance as an instance of the distress prevalent in these Districts at present. During a principal Hindoo feast some weeks ago, the Sawmey Coaches could not be drawn in procession for want of a sufficient number of People. an event unknown in these Countries and which as affecting their prejudices is regarded by them as an Omen of the very worst Description. —

7th.

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7th With reference to the foregoing lamentable Situation of affairs, I beg leave to call the serious attention of your Board whether under existing Circumstances the exaction of our Demands would be consistent either with sound policy or the dictates of that humanity, for which a British Government has ever been so justly renowned. I trust I am not exceeding the limits of that subordination which is due to the superior Judgment of your Board, when I state it as my Opinion that the Situation of these Provinces demand the most indulgent Consideration, not only in deciding upon the line of proceeding to be adopted for the adjustment of Arrears, but of the Revenue for the approaching year. —

8th If any argument could add strength to this Opinion it would be that the Revenue of the Current year has not been adjusted with reference to the present Calamity our Demands being regulated by a lease rent formed three years back, when the Country was flourishing, and the Ryots enjoyed Health and plenty. The recollection of the favorable

adjustment

adjustment of that triennial lease, will at once convince you of the impossibility of realizing it under present circumstances, and although its failure will ever be an object of deep regret with me (under whose immediate Superintendence it was formed) still I trust that sufficient reasons will be found in the foregoing explanation to relieve the Collector from the Charge of having encreased the Revenue at the expense of the prosperity and welfare of the Country. —

9th. As a Measure of present Expediency I would beg leave to recommend that in no instance the property of an Inhabitant be sold for Arrears who may have fallen a sacrifice to the fever, & that where real inability to pay his Kist is established in consequence of sickness and Decrease of Cultivation, no Ryot be pressed for the payment of his Balance. —

10th. By this humane consideration for the Situation of the Cultivator, we shall combine ultimate advantage with immediate relief to the sufferers, for in the first instance the sale of a Ryots Property

is

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is scarcely ever adequate to cover his Arrears and [illegible]
which may hereafter be profitably transferred to
relations and in the second place the Balances
against such as are now in Sickness and distress
- May with Convenience be realized at some [illegible]
future period. -

11th In the Pollams of Madura, Dindigul
and Manapara the same sickness has prevailed
and tho' the Collector has been adverse to call upon
the Poligars to state the Number of Deaths in their
Respective Pollams - lest they should exaggerate the
Number - to avoid the payment of their Kists - yet
from undoubted authority I am sorry to add
it has been lamentably great, not less than seven
Poligars having died - This however will not
I trust prevent the Revenue being realized by
degrees —

12th In Ramnad and Shevagunga there
will be no Balances against these Zemindars at
the end of this year —

13th With regard to Dindigul I am sorry to
say that the same observations apply, as to the Pro-
=vince of Madura, with this difference, that the

Fever

fever has raged with greater violence in the former province for the last fifteen Months - The information collected by the Medical Committee &c will of course soon come under your Consideration but in order to enable you to form a Judgment of the fatal effects attending this Endemic Disorder, I shall take the liberty of annexing an Abstract Return of the Deaths &c. &c. in four Villages, that came immediately under my observation whilst engaged in framing the Rents of this year. —

14th.

	Inhabitants Dead	Do. Sick	Do. remaining
Adianoor	741	65	"
Cusbah Chettynaicken putty	576	"	28
Attiputty	224	"	15
Polleah Nuttom	150	42	"

15th. I might add the names of other Villages where the Disorder rages and where hundreds have died or are unfit to attend to Cultivation from Sickness but it ought to be remarked that the above named places have suffered in the greatest Degree without any local causes to be assigned for this extraordinary Mortality. —

16th. The result of such a State of things on the

Cultivation

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Cultivation is easily to be conceived. My Detail[ed]
Report on Dindigul, will put you in possession [of]
all the information relating to this point; in the m[ean]
time I have the honor to report that the Settlem[ent]
which has been formed by me, under particular
instructions from Mr. Parish, is only for one ye[ar]
and not on lease as recommended by your Boar[d]

17th. Strict it is unnecessary to detail the po[wer]ful reasons which will present themselves to your minds in favor of this temporary Settlement of, e[ven] (under the distressing circumstances of the times) [the] Collector could have succeeded in his endeavors to pre[vail] on the Head Inhabitants to accept of a long lease

18th. As far as the Government are immediately interested, it would have been a Measure of extrem[e] impolicy to give the Province in Rent for a term of Years at a valuation, so much below its real resou[rces] in any season but that of a great and unforeseen Calamity and to have loaded the Head Inhabitan[ts] with a lease with reference to the late triennial Settlement, would be speculating upon events, which it is impossible to foresee. —

19th. For these reasons combined the Rent of

the

+ N.B. As the Ranee of Ramnad has stated her fears of there being a Balance against her Zemindary at the end of the Fusly but which I have not the smallest apprehensions of myself. I conceive it my Duty to mention to your Board that a sum sufficient to save the whole, will be due to her for remission on Account of Losses sustained at the Chank Fishery as will be seen by a Statement which I shall have the honor of forwarding to you at an as early a period as possible

of the present year has been formed on the Actual Cultivation A Measure which I trust you will approve.—

20th. In closing this address I beg leave to assure your Board, that my best endeavors & utmost exertions shall be bestowed in executing the important duties confided to me

21st. The present State of my Cutcherry Establishment may preclude that regularity in the immediate execution of your orders which my duty and inclination would lead me to follow, but you may rest satisfied that in no instance, unnecessary delay shall take place, where my individual exertions can obviate it.

Dindigul
22d May 1811

(Signed) R Peter
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To Captain Beckett
Commanding Dindigul

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the Receipt of your letter of the 28th Instant.

As there are constantly large sums of Money in the Treasury at this place and being unable

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to furnish a sufficient number of Peons to protect the Treasury, you will consider yourself authorized to allow the present guard, to continue at the Kucharee until, I receive an Answer to a letter, which I have addressed, this day, to the Officer Commanding the Division, on the Subject.

(Signed) R. Peter

Dindigul
29th May 1811

To Major General Wilkinson,
Commanding
Southern Division

Sir,

Having been informed by the Officer Commanding Dindigul, that in consequence of the instructions which he has received to hold himself in readiness to March, he will be under the necessity of withdrawing the guard, from over the Treasury at this place, on the arrival of Field Equipments from Trichinopoly I consider it my duty to state that I have it not in my power to furnish a sufficient guard of Peons, to protect the large Sums of Money, which are constantly in this Treasury. I hope therefore that you will allow the present guard to continue as has always

hitherto

been customary

(Signed) R. Peter

Dindigul –
30th May 1811

To the President & Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Para 1st

I have the honor to forward to your Board a second Demand Collection and Balance for the Month of April, which includes all Collections for that Month to the 31st May agreeably to the recommendation, contained in your Secretary's letters of the 23d Ultimo –

2d. In this Statement you will observe that the Balances are reduced to Star Pagodas 63917-19-79 making the Collections since April 61621: 31: 21 –

3d. Of this Sum 13709. 10. 36 are now at the Treasury at Dindigul, and which from the unhealthiness of the District I have been unable to furnish a sufficient number of Peons to escort it to this place.

4th. With regard to the Estimate of 1810/11 it

was

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was formed, on a reference to the state of the District of Dindigul.—

5th. The Rent in this Zillah, having been fixed for 3 years Vizt. for Fuslys 1217. 18 & 19. the Amount assessed, was gradually increased in each successive Year, in the expectation, that if the Renters lost in one year, the advantages derived from the next, would enable them to discharge their Kist without difficulty but as in the last year, they failed, owing to the unfavorable Circumstances of the Season, a large Balance in Consequence remained; and as the Rent of Fusly 1217 was fully discharged, the Amount fixed for that year, was chosen as an Estimate for the present to which were added the Balances due for the last years.—

6th. The causes of its failure must be entirely Attributed to the great fall of rain and to the great Mortality, which has taken place, over the whole of these Districts as well as to the inability of those, who have survived the attack of this Fever, to attend to their Cultivation. The consequence has been a great decrease in it and of course in Revenue, but as I may have occasion hereafter to address your Board

on

on the subject of Balances, I shall defer making any further Remarks, until that time.—

7th. In the Abstract Statement Comparative of Demand Current Land Revenue for 1809/10 and 1810/11 there is a Difference of Star Pagodas 36,227. 19. 55 this has been occasioned by the great deficiency in the Cultivation of Dindigul, owing, as already stated, to the numerous deaths which have taken place, and I am sorry to say that the Amount Settlement in this District for the present year has fallen short of the Estimate in the Sum of Pagodas 12,241. 38. 70.—

Vide Statemt. No. 1.

8th. I trust your Board will not consider the delay which has taken place in forwarding these Statements, to be owing to any neglect on my part, but will attribute it to the real cause, which is, the Sickly state of the Cutcherry Servants, upwards of one half of whom are now ill with the fever, and not even one has escaped being attacked with it, since its first commencement, and are now so weak, and so liable to relapse on the least exertion, that after obliging them to work an extra hour or two for a few days, I was under the necessity to desist, or a

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a short time, not one would have remained for Duty both from the number of people Sick, and from the dread of being seized with this destructive Disease, I have been unable to meet with a person, who is Competent to assist in the preparation of the diffe=rent Accounts required to be furnished from this Office. I hope therefore you will take into conside=ration, the difficulties which I must experience in executing the important duties entrusted to my Charge and should any little irregularities take place in the transmission of Accounts I have to request that Allowances may be made for the peculiarities of the Situation in which I am at present placed. —

(Signed) R. Peter

Madura
29th June 1811

To the Civil Auditor
Fort Saint George

Sir,

I have the honor to forward a Letter addressed to you by Mr. Christy Assistant Surgeon of this Zillah and also a Copy of one addressed to me by the same Gentleman. —

As

As in the letter of the Secretary to Government in the Judicial Department the intention of Government regarding the Monthly allowance of 17 Pagodas to Superintendents of Vaccination is not expressed, I have not considered myself authorized to pay the Amount until I have received instructions for so doing. —

As the Duty which has been entrusted to Mr. Christy will require his frequent personal attendance in the different parts of the District, and must of course be attended with some Expense, I beg leave to recommend that the Sanction of Government may be obtained for Mr. Christy's being permitted to draw the Allowance. —

(Signed) R. Peter

Madura
16th July 1811

To the President and Members
of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to acknowledge the

receipt

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receipt of your Secretarys letter of the 24th of June, conv-
-ing to me, the authority of your Board, to make such
advances, for Repairs and Cultivation, as I found
absolutely necessary, and directing me, at the same
time, to forward at as early a period as possible, an
Estimate of such Charges for the sanction of Govern-

2d. I accordingly have now the honor of sub-
-mitting one, which I trust will be approved of.

3d. In Madura and Dindigul the Amount
Estimated for Murramut is Star Pagodas 14,665-28-
This sum, will, I fear at first, appear large, but
I trust the explanations which I am now about to
offer, for the causes of it, will prove sufficiently sa-
-tisfactory to your Board.—

4th. About the end of August last, the rain
commenced in these Districts, and fell in such
torrents to the middle of May, as never before wit-
-nessed, by the oldest Inhabitants, the consequence
has been, from the immense bodies of Water pouring
down from the Hills and carrying destruction in
all directions, whole Ancuts have been completely
swept away and several Nullahs destroyed. The
different Tanks likewise being overflowed, and the
bo

banks unable to bear the great pressure of Water, have given way, so that scarcely one has escaped uninjured

5th. That your Board may form a better Idea of the mischief which has been done, I have shewn in Statement B the number of Anicuts, Tanks & Nullahs which have been damaged and require repair.

6th. Under such circumstances therefore, I trust it will not appear surprizing to your Board that the Sum necessary for Murramut should amt. to SP 14,665 - f 28 - c 38. —

7th. This might perhaps be lessend a little in the present year but in the ensuing one, it is more than probable that a Sum nearly equal to the present would be required, as it has been hitherto customary to repair the Anicuts with Mud only, from their being but slightly injured, & the expense of course was trifling, but in the present instance, they have been completely destroyed, and I leave it to your Board to decide if it would not be more Oeconomical, to rebuild them of more substantial materials than Mud, which would require constant Repair, whereas if

they

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they are re-built of Brick, Stone, and Chunam, as now Estimated it is likely no repairs will be found necessary for some years, unless a Season like the last should again occur, which it is impossible to foresee —

8th. As the Cultivation of many Villages depended entirely on the water from these places, much loss must inevitably have taken place, if they had not been speedily put in order. —

9th. Those which required a larger sum for repair than usual are in number twelve and the loss which would have been sustained if the Amount had not been granted 11,011. 15. 58 as will be seen by Statement C.

10th. Under therefore the authority of your Secretary's letter, I have made such advances for the above repairs as I thought necessary, and I now submit my Estimate, for the whole, of both Districts, the which I hope will receive the early Sanction of Government.

11th. That the money if authorized may not be misapplied, it will be my duty to guard against,

and

and by appointing Circars people to superintend the construction of the different works I conceive I shall be using the most effectual method of preventing a thing of the kind taking place.

12th. The sum required for Tuccavy is Star Pagodas 7,038 8. 15 In Dindigul, this has been partly caused by the Loss which the Inhabitants of a number of Villages has sustained of the whole of their Cattle, and if such advances are not made, no Cultivation can possibly take place, as they have suffered so much on that Account, and from the late unfavorable Season as to be quite unable to recover themselves without this assistance.

Vide Statemt. D.

13th. In Madura likewise the Season has been most unfavorable. In parts of the District where Cotton is Chiefly Cultivated nearly the whole has been destroyed by the Rains - as well as a large portion of the Grain - Indeed what these districts have suffered within these twelve Months, is almost inconceivable and as I have already stated in my letter of the 22d. of May, they demand your most indulgent

consideration

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consideration. —

14th. The fever, which has been raging so long, & has carried off not less than 20,000 people since the 1st July 1810. and thousands who have escaped death have been so debilitated by this dreadful Malady as to be quite unable to attend to their labour — It is, now I am happy to say, abating a little & if no rain falls for some Months, may perhaps cease altogether — Tho' a considerable time must elapse before these Districts can possibly be restored to their former state. —

15th. I shall, now, conclude Gentlemen with most earnestly soliciting your early Authority for disbursing the different Sums estimated — As no Districts I believe ever needed more the Assistance of Government than these —

(Signed) R. Peter

Madura
25th July 1811

To Henry Oakes Esquire
late Register Zillah of Madura

Sir,

By desire of the Civil Auditor the enclosed Extract of the Audit Regulations is forwarded to you

I

I beg leave to add that in consequence of your delay the whole Accounts for the year in which the Retrenchment against you stands, are detained in this Office. —

Mr Parish being extremely anxious to close his Audits requests the favor that you will forthwith remit the Sum due by you to this Office. —

(Signed) P. Peter

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Madura 25th Augt 1811

To the President and Members of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen

Para 1st I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Secretary's letter, forwarding the petitions of the Shanars of Sheoagunga

2d. Since the Decrees passed by the Zillah Court of Ramnad the Inhabitants both of Sheoagunga and Ramnad, have persisted in the erroneous Idea, that the Collector had no Authority, to Rent the Arrack of those Districts. —

3d. In 1808/9 when Vursay Mahomed and Cawder Monigar were appointed Renters a

Proclamation

Proclamation was Issued, stating the principal heads of the Regulation, just then passed and the fine, they would subject themselves to, if they still continued the Manufacture and Sale of Arrack &c.ª without the permission of the Renters but it was of no avail. they still refused to make any Arrangement with them urging in their defence, for such Conduct the decree passed by the Zillah Court

4th. In this manner did they continue obstinately bent on opposition to all offers of accommodation made by the Renters and greatly to the loss of the Circar tis the Collector, thought it his duty to interfere and to oblige them to pay what was so justly due.

5th. Instructions were accordingly issued to the Head Servant of the Salt Department directing him to ascertain the Amount each Individual should have paid, according to the number of Stills &c.ª which he possessed and to Collect from them whatever balance might be outstanding against them. and on their refusing he was ordered to send them to the Huzzoor. that they might be confined

until

until they discharged the whole of the Demands against them - which was accordingly done - and the people whose names are to the Petitions forwarded to me, were among the number -

6th. Here I beg leave to remark, that previous to the receipt of your Secretary's letter - the whole of the people confined, had Petitioned me for their release, on Security - promising to discharge whatever might be due within a certain time and by two instalments - To this I had consented, and on the Security being given, they were released and a part of the Balance, has since been realized -

7th. For this reason and that I might ascertain more fully the Causes of their Complaint I sent for the parties eight of them attended, (the remainder being either sick or dead) and on questioning them on the Subject, they at first denied, with the exception of one person, that they had ever signed or seen or ever Known any thing of a Petition - until many days

after

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after it had been presented; on my confronting them

however with the person who at first acknowledged

- they all confessed, but one, that they had signed one

and that it was at their own request it had been given

in. —

8th. Their reason for so doing, they stated, was

that they conceived the Demand against them unjust

after the Decision of the Court and that they, at

that time had determined, not to pay it but that they

had since been undeceived and now understood, that

a Regulation had been passed Sanctioning such Rent

and that they were then willing to come to an agree-

-ment with whoever might be appointed Renter —

without any further oppositions. —

9th. Upon this, I directed them, to return to their

Villages assuring them at the same time that if

I discovered one person after the notice which had b

been given them - Manufacturing Arrack without

a Licence - I should certainly have Section XIII of

Regulation I A.D. 1808 carried into execution aga

them & I am happy to inform your Board that I ha

in consequence of these Measures been enabled to

out

nt the Arrack of this District (Shevagunga) for the present finally for 5010 Sheoly Chucks.

Nellore
14th October 1811

Signed/ R. Peter

To the President and Members
of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen/

Para 1st. Pursuant to the Instructions contained in your Secretarys letter of the 29th of August I proceeded to enquire into the encroachments alleged to be made, by the Chank Renter of Ramnad, on the rights of the Chank Renter of Ceylon

2d. From the Depositions and Evidence of the Oldest Inhabitants and Fishermen of Ramnad and from every information which I have been enabled to collect there does not appear to have been any Encroachment made whatever by the Renters of the former fishery on those of the latter but on the contrary it appears that they have a right to fish one league further East than they usually do, as is shewn by the accom-

panying

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-panying Depositions, as well as by the State of the Rance of Ramnad –

(Signed) R: Peter

Mellore 8th Novr. 1811

To the Resident of Travancore

Sir,

I have the honor to forward to you Trans-late of an Arzee addressed to me by the Renter of the Cardamom Hills. –

As the Gardens, from which, the Renter Complains, that the produce has been taken, appear to have been always, considered within the limits of his Farm – I have to request, that you will be so good, as to issue such instructions as you may deem necessary to prevent similar acts occurring hereafter, or the loss to the Circar, in Consequence, must inevitably be very considerable –

(Signed) R Peter

Mellore 23d. Novr. 1811

To the President and Members of the Mint Committee

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to forward to you, the

Staten

Statement called for in your Secretary's letter of 26th August. —

From the Statement now transmitted, your Committee will observe that the new Coinage has only got into Circulation within the last few Months at least to any extent, and consequently no alteration whatever appears at present to have taken place, in the Currency of this District

Nellore 28th Novr. 1811. (Signed) R Peter

To the Magistrate in the Zillah of Madura

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of 16th Instant

On the introduction of the permanent Jummah in the Province of Dindigul, the whole of the Maunyam Lands previously allowed to Cawalgars were assumed, I shall therefore in my reply to your letter confine myself to the Madura Zillah alone, it still remaining an unsettled District

In most of the Villages in this Zillah

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a Mauneom is granted to three descriptions of people, who come under the denomination of Cawalgars, Tolies, and Tandels the two latter, are likewise still continued in Pundiquel, and are considered Revenue Servants, exclusively, as will appear from their Services hereafter defined.

The Duties of a Cawalgar have always been considered to watch over the Crops on the Ground to guard them when reaped, and when thrashed, the product is measured in his presence, and delivered over to his Charge, entirely, after which whatever loss may be sustained, he is considered the accountable person for it, to protect the Village to which he belongs, & should any of the Inhabitants be robbed, he is obliged to make good from his own Mauneom lands the value of whatever Articles may have been stolen, unless he can deliver up the Offenders to Justice, and in that case he is absolved from all responsibility. This method in the first instance, compels him to guard the Village, with the utmost caution, and in the latter, occasions his being alert in the apprehension

of

of the people who had been guilty of the Theft.

He is also to watch over the Circars Grain & wherever it may be deposited within the range of his Caivel, to be a guide to Detachments passing thro' the Country if required, and to protect all Travellers, as long as they continue within his Village.—

These are considered the principal duties of a Cavalgar, there are others of a Minor nature which it would be useless to mention, I shall therefore proceed to explain the duties of a Toty—He is required to convey Olehs or Letters to and from Villages, to watch the different Tanks when full that immediate notice may be given, should any of the Banks have burst, to assist in stopping such breaches as may have been made, to observe that the Water from Tanks is properly distributed in the irrigation of the fields and finally to attend to several menial duties, attached to the Village.—

Toty.

Tundel.—

When Balances are outstanding against Individuals, an Oleh is given to him in which is specified the Amount due by each he then collects

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and delivers it to the Nattomkar under whose autho-
-rity he immediately is.—

From what I have stated I trust it will appear, that the Totees and Tundels are exclusively attached to the Revenue Department, the Cavelgar may be considered as belonging to both.

(Signed) R. Peter

Nellore
28th Novr. 1811

To the President & Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Secretary's letter of the 7th November.—

It is with extreme concern that I have to report to your Board, an almost total failure of the Periodical rains in this Year.—

In the early part of the Season, a small Quantity of Rain fell, which enabled the Inhabi-
-tants to Cultivate Poonjeh lands to the extent shewn in the Statement now forwarded, but since that time

with

with the exception of a few showers in the end of September, and in the beginning of October, it has entirely ceased, and this, added to the other misfortunes which have befallen this District within the last eighteen Months, will I much fear, cause a greater loss of Revenue, than I had at first any apprehension of.

The accompanying Statement exhibits, the extent of Nunjeh and Poonjeh Cultivation in the Districts of Dindigul and Madura, up to the 30th of November, but as the Tanks are drying very fast, and there are at present no appearances what-ever of Rain, I much fear a Decrease in the Cultivation beyond any former years.—

Every assistance in my power has been afforded to the Inhabitants, and the most strict injunctions have been given to the Public Servants to assist and to encourage them to exert themselves as much as possible and I sincerely hope by these measures to induce them to cultivate, to the fullest extent, the present state of the District will admit of.—

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A Similar Statement of the Cultiva[tion]
shall be forwarded every Month, together with
any Remarks which may occur to me.

Nellore
[8]th December 1811

(Signed) R Peter
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To the Judge and Magistrate
in Zillah
Madura

Sir,

Para. 1st. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th Instant enclosing translate of a Precept issued by you to the Tahsildar of Manadakolum.

2d. As I am acquainted with no Regulation authorizing such a mode of proceeding I have to request that you will transmit to me Copy of such Regulation, if extant.

3d. On a Sum of Money sufficient for the purchase of the Grain required by you being forward=ed the Quantity shall be supplied.

Nellore
8th Decr 1811

(Signed) R Peter
a

To the Judge and Magistrate
in Zillah
Madura

Sir,

Para 1st. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of the 9th Instant, and as I do not consider your Precept (according to my interpretation of Regulation III 1810) consonant to any one part of it - I beg that it may be submitted for the Decision of Government.

2d. In issuing a Precept to a Revenue Servant to purchase Grain tho' on the public Account You have in my opinion exceeded the power vested in you, for in no Regulation can I discover a Section Authorizing such a mode of procedure. -

3d. Your order, moreover, could not have been obeyed, as in the first instance, you made no application to me, to advance such sums, as might have been required for the purchase of the Grain, and in the second none were made by yourself, and without the permission of the person in Charge of the District - The Tahsildar could not have taken Money from his Treasury, to purchase the Article

required

required by you.—

4th. In the latter part of the 3d Paragraph of your letter, you state that "if on a requisition from him (the Magistrate) the Collector is to deny, unless money is sent, to purchase the necessaries required for the public service, it is to refuse co-operation altogether, a subject which Government must decide".—

5th. As no requisition was made by you to me, no want of co-operation on my part can be complained of.— You issued a Precept to my Tahsil-dar, and merely sent me a Copy; this I considered an unusual way of proceeding & requested of you to inform me, upon what Regulation you acted.—

6th. As the Commanding Officer has informed me of the scarcity which prevails in the Fort of Madura I have taken such measures, as I hope will rectify it, and as from the spirit of Regulation III 1812. I consider myself responsible for the supply of the Troops, in the Fort of Madura, I shall adopt such

measures as I deem most advisable, until the orders of Government are received on the subject

(Signed) R. Peter

Nellore
11th Decr. 1811

To the Judge of the Zillah of Madura

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letter of the 7th Instant - as nearly the whole of the Surveyors with their Establishment have been seized with the fever, I fear sometime must elapse before they will be able to return to their Duty - On, however their reporting themselves sufficiently recovered to undertake the Survey proposed by you I shall have the honor of informing you of it.

llore 11th Decr. 1811

(Signed) R. Peter

To the President & Members of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Para 1st

I have the honor to forward to you Copy of a correspondence, which has passed, between

between the Magistrate of this Zillah and myself.

2d. On the 8th I received Mr. Long's letter No. 1 with its enclosure A.—

3d. As I considered this an irregular mode

No. 2 of proceeding, I called upon that Gentleman to point out to me, the Regulation upon which he had Acted, In reply I received No. 3 and returned, as my Answer No. 4.

4th. As we differ so materially in regard to the Construction of Regulation III 1810 I hope I have Acted right in requesting that it may be submitted for the Decision of Government, as it will prevent all discussions of the Kind taking place hereafter.

5th. It has always been my Wish to co-operate as far as in my power, with every person in Authority and I should have been happy to have listened to any suggestion made by Mr. Long but as I was unacquainted with a Regulation authorizing the issue of an order similar to the one now forwarded to a Revenue Servant under my Charge and without any previous communication with me whatever I trust I shall be considered justified in having objected to it.

(Signed) R. Peter

Nellore
[illegible] Decr 1811

To the Magistrate in Zillah
of Madura

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th despatched on the 9th Instant.

From the reports of the different Tassildars I am sorry to state, that I entertain the most serious apprehensions of a very considerable failure in the Cultivation, throughout the whole of this District.

Owing to the vast numbers of people, who have perished from the effects of the fever the extent of Cultivation in this year has been less than in almost any former. What portion of Land has been Cultivated is now dying for want of Water and unless a few Showers speedily fall nearly the whole must be destroyed.

(Signed) R. Peter

Mellore
16th Oct. 1811

To the President & Members of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

By Regulation III of 1810 it is expected that

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that all Collectors should provide Detachments, passing thro' their Districts, with Grain &c.

As of late, I have experienced considerable difficulty, in collecting Supplies, even, for the smallest Detachments, and as that difficulty is likely to increase in consequence of the unfavorableness of the Season, I beg leave to request your Sanction, to purchase a certain Quantity of Grain, in each "Talook" for the above purposes, until the Articles in these Districts, become more abundant than they are at present.

I beg to be favored with an early reply, as the present is the most favorable period for laying in a Store —

(Signed) R. Peter

Mellore
Jan.y 1812

To the President & Members
of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Para 1st. I have the honor to forward a Statement of

of Cultivation of these Districts, with the exception of one Talook to the end of December.–

2d. The Talook, from which the Statement has not yet been received, is Nuttom – and the cause, is owing to the Catcherry Servants having been attacked with the fever, which I regret to state, is now raging in that Division, with great violence, carrying off people on the 3d & 4th day.

3d. During the last Month, Your Board, will observe an Increase, on the Cultivation of the former, of Nurjeh Caw.d 6271. 9 and Punjeh & Goontahs 13146. as 3½ in Madura District and of Nurjeh & Goontahs 5630. as 2½ – Poonjeh Goontahs 27433. as 3¾ in Dindigul District.

4th. This Increase would have been much more considerable, if there had been any rain, but I am sorry to say that scarcely a drop has fallen, and as the river is dry, the whole of the Nurjeh has been watered from the Tanks, which in consequence of having so great a drain upon them, and not having the usual Quantity of Water in them, are now – nearly dry. –

5th. The Reports from the different Talooks

are

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are truly distressing. I have been under the necessity of quitting the Mellore Division, in consequence of the great difficulty experienced in procuring water. - So great indeed, is the drought this Year, that I entertain the most serious apprehensions that the Crops will not yield one half of their usual produ

(Signed) R. Peter

Secondermallay
16th January 1812

To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I have to request that you will be pleased to obtain the permission of Government for the Surveyor General to forward to me a Copy of the Map of these Districts as the original was so damaged last year by the Rains as to be of no service whatever.

(Signed) R. Peter

Secondermallay
31st Jany 1812

To the Post Master General
Fort St George

Sir,

I beg leave to be informed if the alteration in the route of the Tappal to Ceylon is to cause any alteration

in

in the rates of Postage, on letters to that Island from this place —

(Signed) R. Peter Ct

Secondermallay
7th February 1812

To Lieut. Hume
Commanding Ramnad

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 6th. —

Hitherto no application has been made by the Collector, for a guard either for the Rannee or her Minister — as it was usual for her to apply to Coll. Martin for one, who, I believe always granted it — but on this head Lieut. Miller can give you more information than I can — I myself can perceive no impropriety in you allowing a Detachment to accompany her Minister — if the strength of your Garrison will admit of it — as all expences will be defrayed by the Rannee —

(Signed) R. Peter Ct

Secondermallay
8th February 1812

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To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Having for many days past been attack
with the fever I have been unable to state to you
my opinion with regard to the future Settlement
of these Districts but I hope to be enabled to do
it shortly - In the mean time I beg leave to ad
that such measures have been adopted by me,
as I trust will secure to the Circar the full
Amount of the Revenue to be derived from these
Districts, this Year -

It is with much regret that I have
to report that the fever has recommenced as bad,
if not worse than ever.

The Mellore Talook appears to be parti-
-cularly unhealthy no less than 282 people having
perished by that Complaint in 9 days from 22d to
31st of last Month

(Signed) R. Peter

Madura
4th Febry 1812

To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to forward a translate of an Arzee which I have this day received from the Minister of the late Ranee of Ramnad.—

By a Will, which the Ranee has left it appears that she has bequeathed her Zemindary to an adopted Son, who is I under=stand performing the necessary ceremonies.—

I have also the honor to forward translate of an Arzee from the Daughter of the late Rajah of Ramnad who lays claim to the Zemindary. I have in consequence directed Tyagarayah -pillay the Minister to continue in the manage=-ment of the District until your orders are received on the Subject.

Signed/ R. Peter

Madura
19th February 1812

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To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to forward Copy of the Will left by the Ranee of Ramnad, which was sent to me by her adopted Son.

(Signed) R. Peter
Ca.

Madura
22d February 1812.

To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Para. 1st. The Settlement of the Zillah of Dindigul having devolved upon me in consequence of the indisposition of Mr. Parish, I have the honor to submit my Report for the consideration of your Board.

2d. As the triennial Lease, in this District, had expired with the end of last Fusly it was

Mr Parish's intention to have carried into effect your instructions for the formation of a similar Arrangement but finding the mortality had been so uncommon and the general distress so great he conceived that he should be only anticipating your orders in forming the Settlement for one year and that on the Actual Cultivation but having being shortly after seized with the fever and obliged to quit Dindigul he directed me to form it accordingly, as I had the honor of reporting in my Letter of the 22d of May last

3d I have now the honor to forward to you Jummah and Kisthundy in which you will perceive that the present Settlement Amounts to Star Pagodas 51976. 9. 29. that of Fusly 1217 to Star Pagodas 63217. 3. 19. Average of the three years lease 74,277. 6. 38. difference in the Settlement of Fusly 1217 and the present SP 12,240. 38. 70 and in that of three years Average Star Pagodas 22,300. 42. 9. —

Vide Statement No. 1 with A.B. &c.

4th

32 63 4.

4th. Tho' this difference is great, yet when I inform your Board, that from the best Accounts, which I have been enabled to collect, the deaths from the fever in these Estates alone, within the short space of 10 Months Amounted to 12,700 added to which, the vast numbers, (for very few escaped,) who had been attacked with it, and were constantly liable to return, on the least exertion, all surprize must cease, and we can only lament that such a season should ever have occurred to cause such mortality and distress.—

5th. That these Accounts have not been exaggerated I have every reason to believe during the time I was forming the Settlement I had frequent opportunities of observing the havoc which it had made in many Villages some have been completely depopulated and tho' the four selected in my address of the 22d of May, were at that time the greatest sufferers yet others equally unfortunate might now be pointed out to shew how destructive this Malady has been.

(P.T.O.)

6th. A great number of the Ryots who had been seized with this Complaint, were unable to attend to receive their Puttoms; many who contrived to reach the Cutcherry, were obliged to be supported during the time they were before me and were such objects as it would be diffi-cult to describe —

7th. But as your Board will find in the Report of the Committee who were appointed to investigate into the causes of the disease an Acct. of the destruction it has occasioned I conceive it unnecessary to say more than that such a Calamity I believe has never before visited these Provinces — At least to such an extent and to Account for the true causes, is perhaps, impossible —

8th. Tho' the above has certainly chiefly occa-sioned the Cultivation falling so far short of former years, yet other reasons may be assigned for it likewise —

9th. In this District Punjeh is chiefly Cultivated and as in the Months of May and

June

Since previous to the fever commencing to rage with a
violence as it did latterly, scarcely any rain fell th
usual extent of land was in consequence not cult
-vated, But from the latter end of August to the mi
-ddle of April it fell in such torrents as to carry a
and destroy a great part of what had been Cultiva
especially in those Villages in the Neighbourhood of
Hills.—

10th. It has likewise been customary in many
Villages for Yairwaddies to Cultivate, indeed in som
the whole of the Cultivation was carried on by th
but finding the fever spreading, and dreading inf
-tion, they refused to afford their assistance, on
which account the Revenue of these Villages
has been much less than usual.—

11th. Under such Circumstances combined
with the reasons already stated in my letter of the
22d. May. I trust your Board will approve the
Instructions given me by Mr Parish to form the
Rent for one year only.—

12th

Vide Statement D

12th. For the 6 Estates in the possession of Zemindars, I have the honor to transmit a separate Statement of Summah and Kistbundy Amounting to S.P. 17,844: 25 f: 70 c making in total the 35 Estates Star Pagodas 68920: 35: 19.

13th. The Settlement of Land Revenue in the

Vide Statement E

Province of Madura for fuslys 1218 - 19 and 20 having already received your Sanction I have now the honor to submit the Abstract Statement of Summah and Kistbundy for fusly 1220 Amounting to S.P. 140,815: 5 f: 43 c. —

14th. The Triennial Lease of this District having expired with the last fusly I hope to have the honor to address your Board in a few days on the subject of the future Settlement of it, as well as of the Balances which are at present outstanding. —

15th. For the Pollams of Madura, Dindigul &ca. I have the honor to forward a Summah and Kistbundy Amounting to Star Pags

Vide Statement F

258,992: 17: 76.

16th.

34 67

16th The Rent for the Cardamom Hills having expired, I was directed by the Collector to farm them out for the same Number of years as formerly & I have now the honor of submitting a Jummah and Kistbundy for the same for Fuslys 1220. 21 & 22 Amounting to Star Pagodas 12,909. 4. 7. The Kists for Fusly 1220 have been regularly discharged and from the Renters present punctual payment I have every reason to be satisfied that no Balances will remain at the end of the year.

Vide Statement G.

17th I have also the honor to transmit a separate Statement of Jummah and Kistbundy of the Pallany Hill Rent in the District of Dindigul for Fuslys 1220 21 and 22 amounting to Star Pagodas 2,515. 6. 66. making in Total of the Hill Products for Fusly 1220 Star Pagodas 5,157. 25. 73. I was induced to farm out the above Hill for the term mentioned on Account of no one offering to take it for one year, unless for so small a sum as would have caused much loss to the Circar.

[Vi]de Statement H

[Vi]de Statement I

18th

18th. I further have the honor to transmit a

Vide Statement J

Statement exhibiting the Actual Gross Collections Charges and Nett Revenue of the Sayer Choukies in these Districts for Fusly 1229 Amounting to Star Pagodas 20798 .. 32. making an Increase on the Collections of the former year of Star Pags. 816. 23. 34.

Vide Statement K

19th. This Statement exhibits the Gross Collections of the Salt Pans in the Districts of Ramnad and Shevagunga for Fusly 1229 amounting to Star Pagodas 12657. 4. 31.

20th. The cause of the Amount of the Sales of Salt appearing so small, is owing partly to the Quantity of Rain which fell and prevented the merchants resorting to the Pans as usual, but Chiefly to the mal-practices of the Servants employed at the Pans, I am now investigating into the causes of it, and hope to be enabled shortly to recover a very considerable sum which has been Embezzled by them. As soon as I have completed my enquiries I shall lay the whole before your Board

21st.

35   6/69

21st The Arrack Farms in the Provinces of Madura and Dindigul for Fusly 1220. Amounting to Star Pagodas 5,157. 20. 35.

Statement L.

22nd In Shevagunga and Ramnad, I have been unable to make the Shanars and Arrack Distillers come to any agreement whatever, until lately. The Revenue therefore derived from this head in these Districts I am unable just now rightly to state but as the people are now making Arrangements as soon as they are Completed I shall have the honor of addressing your Board.—

Vide Statement M

23rd The accompanying Statement shews the Revenue of Stamp paper in these Districts for Fusly 1220. Amounting to Star Pagodas 2,369. 19. 3[illegible]

24th I beg leave to apolize to your Board for the delay which has taken place in forwarding these Statements, it has been partly occasioned by the former sickly state of the Kutcharee, which caused so much business to fall in Arrears as required some time to bring up.—

(Signed) R. Peter [illegible]

Madura
24th February 1812

To the Accountant General

Fort St. George

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Deputy Accountants letter of 15th Instant.—

As No. 6330 came up a prize of 20. Pagodas in the first Class, the Amount was received by me for the renewal of a Ticket in the 2d Class— I therefore transmit my receipt for the same, which I hope will be considered a sufficient Voucher.

Signed / R Peter, C

Madura
25th Feby 1812.—

To the President and Members
of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

In the District of Dindigul, a considerable quantity of Tobacco, is yearly cultivated, which led me to examine the Choultee Accounts, that I might ascertain the Amount of the Duty, which had been Collected, on that article—

I was much surprized to find it fall far short of my expectations, and I in consequence enquired into the causes of it, and have at length discovered, that a great Quantity is taken into the Trichinopoly District through a pass, by which they avoid paying duty at the Choultrees; I beg leave therefore to request your Sanction for Establishing a Choultree at the Village of Ellengacoorchy, which is near the pass —

The duties which have been levied in the Shevagunga District, have hitherto proved very trifling and as there are several large Villages in that Boundary. I beg leave to recommend that an additional Choultree be Established at the Village of Partepanoor which is one of the Principal ones. —

The Establishment for each are submitted in the accompanying Statement.

(Signed) R Peter

Madura
29th Feb.y 1812

To

To the President and Members

of the

Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Para 1st. I have the honor to state to your Board such measures as I wish to be adopted for the Settlement of these District for the present Fusly—

Madura— 2d. When it is brought into consideration, the total failure which has taken place in the periodical Rains this year superadded to the immense losses, which this District has sustained in its Inhabitants you will, I trust, concur with me in the opinion, that to Rent it out for a period exceeding one year, would be highly impolitic—

Madura— 3d. To detail the various reasons, which must present themselves, for this temporary arrangement will I hope be deemed unnecessary— I shall therefore proceed to propose, that the Settlement of the District, be for one year only, and on the Actual Cultivation of it—

4th. I am well aware, that the Nautomkars & Naut Curnoms of the different Villages, are at all

times

times ready to conceal Lands, and to embezzle as much as is in their power, and as in times such as the present, it is more than probable, that they will lose no opportunity of benefitting themselves, and bring as little to account as possible. I beg leave to suggest that I may be permitted to form it, on the Actual Cultivation by Measurement.

5th. From what experience I have had, in the measuring of different Villages, I am convinced, it will cause considerable Increase of Revenue, and will not only detect the mal-practices of the Village Servants, but will likewise be the most effectual mode of ascertaining the full extent of the Cultivation.

6th. The Expences I calculate will Amount to Lb. 651. 23. 14. and I am well convinced that the advantages, which will be derived, if this proposition be adopted, will much more than compensate for whatever trouble and expense may be incurred.

7th. The present Estimate of the Land Revenue of

this

this District is 73036 S.P.

8th. In Dindigul the same observations equally apply, I beg leave therefore, to recommend that the same mode of settlement be adopted in the present fusly, as in Madura; but as I think some little alterations advantageous, both to the Circar and Ryots might be made in renting this District & I think the ensuing fusly will be a favorable time for introducing the change, I beg leave to state them for the consideration of your Board —

Dindigul

9th. When the Survey of the Nunjeh and Poonjeh Lands took place under Mr. Wardes in fusly 1210 the Kinds of Soil were not regularly distinguished the consequence has been, that the Assessment in a number of instances has been made without the least reference to the produce the Lands would be yield, to pay the demands of the Circar, and, to reward the Husbandman for his labour in preparing the Land for Cultivation - as has been observed in Madura

10th. The Inhabitants therefore in many Villages

have

have neglected to cultivate the Lands, on which a high Peerwah has been assessed, and only Cultivated those which bore a low and proportionable Peerwah by which they could pay the Circars demands and derive some benefit tho' trifling to themselves –

11th. To shew your Board more clearly the irregularity of the Assessment I have the honor to forward, Statem[ent] No. 2 & 3 of two Villages, pointing out, what is at present assess[ed] according to the Survey, and what ought to have been assessed, agreeable to the different descriptions of Land in the Village. –

12th. To remedy this evil, I would recommend, t[hat] that in those Villages where this irregularity is to be found, that the Lands be re-surveyed, and the different Descriptions classed as in Madura –

13th. This might be easily effected, and I am sure would prove very advantageous to the Circar –

14th. The sum required to be expended for measur[ing] 4 -ing, will be 681 – 36 – 66 additional expense for 5 classing the Lands 3017 – 12 – 22 –

15th.

15th. I am more anxious that these alterations should take place, on Account of the numerous representations I received from the Inhabitants while forming the Settlement of last Year - They stated to me the impossibility of their Cultivating the Lands which bore a high Teerwah, as it was equal to the whole produce of the Soil leaving nothing for their own Subsistence, but that, if they were properly classed they would Cultivate them & would be enabled to pay the Teerwah without Difficulty -

16th. The advantage therefore of this change will I trust appear evident but some objections may be made to it as it may occasion the Circar some little loss in the first year, but in the second it would be trifling, and in the third, nothing - but would most probably, cause an Increase, by inducing many of the Inhabitants, who have quitted the District, on Account of the Fever, and other causes to return, the good effects will be then felt

and

and the Revenue will gradually Increase equal to, if not, beyond former Years—

17th The Estimate Land Revenue of the 29 Estates for this year is 40000 Pagodas—

(Signed) R Peter

Madura
1st March 1812—

Collr

The Estimated Gross Revenue of these two

No. 6— Districts for Fusly 1221 is Pagodas 396,049. 32. 75

To the Resident at
Tanjore

Sir,

Para. 1st I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th Ultimo

2d As the fever I understand is still very bad at Peraumallay, I think with you, it would be useless risking the lives of People especially as the delay of a Month or two cannot possibly be of any material consequence—

3d The surveying boys shall be directed to attend

and

and to give every assistance whenever you may think it advisable to commence your Journey - and the plans of the different Boundary disputes, which they have already taken I shall have much plea-sure in sending to you.

(Signed) R. Peter

Madura
14th March 1812

To the President & Members of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to forward Translate of an Arzee, addressed to me by the adopted Son of the late Ranee accompanied with its two enclosures

As it may be expected that I should offer my sentiments with regard to the future Succession to the Zemindary, and as I have made such Enquiries on the Subject, as I considered necessary I shall without further hesitation state them.

In the year 1794 the Province of Ramnad was forfeited to Government by an Act of Rebel-

-lion

tion on the part of the Zemindar, and the Poligar family declared in consequence incapable of holding the Zemindary — The subsequently granting therefore of the Zemindary to the Ranee, was a free and voluntary act of Government, and not that of right.

Such being the case, and the Ranee having no Issue, she agreeable to the laws and usages of her cast adopted a Child, and having died without setting a side that adoption as is shewn by her Will, which I had the honor of forwarding on the 22.d Ultimo, the Child in my opinion becomes Heir to the Zemindary —

On this account I beg leave to recommend that the adopted Child be nominated Successor under the Court of Wards, & that Pagaranz-pillay be appointed Minister to the Estate during the Minority, as a person fit for the situation, from his Knowledge of the affairs and state of the Country.

(Signed) R Peter
Collr.

Madura
20th March 1812

To the President & Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I have the honor, to acknowledge the receipt of your Secretary's letter, calling my attention, to the correspondence, with the late Collector regarding the Petition of Esson Sing. —

During the Nabob's Government all Villages, which were bestowed for Charitable purposes, were put under the Management of the Brahmins, and people, who were appointed to superintend the different Establishments, and they paid to Government, Annually a Certain Poroopoo. To discharge this Poroopoo, it seems, from the Depositions of the Sons of the parties who signed the Bond (the original parties having been dead sometime) the money now Claimed, was borrowed. —

No sunned or Accounts of the Chattrom for those years, are to be met with, as the whole, with the Accounts of the Villages for many years

41 ~~27~~ 81

were destroyed by fire, it is therefore impossible to ascertain for certain at this period on what occasion this money was borrowed, or whether it was expended for the use of the Chultrom or not.

I have been only able to obtain the Accounts of the produce of the Villages during the Nabobs Government for Fuslies 9/10 which is shewn in the Statement now forwarded as well as the produce during the Company's Management to Fusly 1215.

(Signed) R. Peter
Colr.

Madura
12th May 1812

To the Civil Auditor
Fort St. George

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th Ultimo with a Copy of the Decision of the Honble the Governor in Council on the References of the Judicial Charges from the Accounts of Mr. P. Kinloch for Fuslies 16 & 17 Annexed to it, which I have Communicated to the Judge and Magistrate.

2d. With regard to charge No. 8 I am sorry

that

that I can give no explanation, on the subject as the Amount was paid on a Contingent Indent without any Account particulars having been furnished to the Collector by the Magistrate

3.d In July last a Statement was forwarded to you, Shewing that Government had sustained no loss by advances on Account of Batta to Prisoners since which time none have been made, but on the receipt of the Judge & Magistrate —

I have stated to the Judge that you did not consider these advances necessary and that I had received your instructions, to discontinue making them in consequence

(Signed) R. Peter
Coll.r

Madura
31.st May 1812

To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to reply to the different Queries, contained in your Secretary's letter of the 10.th of April last, which a severe return of fever prevented my doing earlier —

In

In obtaining the information required by your Board, I have experienced some difficulty as those only from whom, it was possible, for me to gain any correct intelligence, I have always found, prejudiced on one side, or the other, and of course, their testimoney has tended, to favor that party to which they were attached — Upon a consideration of the whole of the Accounts, however, which I have received, the following appear to me, the most to be relied upon —

The adopted Child of the late Raunee was born on the 18th Chittray, in the Malabar year Nalaw, corresponding to 28th April 1796 — which makes him to the present date 16 Years 1 Month and 9 days of Age —

When three Months Old, the Raunee, it seems, took this Child under her protection, but did not adopt him till June 1803.

When she had determined on this Measure, she assembled the heads of her Cast, and signified, her intention, Many immediately consented to it, some however, refused, and it was not

not till threats and bribes had been used that they at last acceded to it.

Whether, this, was a legal adoption or not, is disputed, by many. Some, say, that agreeable to the customs of the Country, the adoption should take place, during the life time of the husband, & as this, in the present instance, was not the case, the Child not having been adopted, by the Raunee, till many days after the death of her husband, it is in consequence, illegal. Others, again say, that as this adoption, was, with the consent and knowledge of the heads of her Cast, it is of course, legal. Which, is most correct, I have not been able rightly to ascertain. —

There does not appear tobe any closer connection, with the Poligars family, than, that Mootoo Coopa tewer, the adopted boy's father, was married, in the first instance, to the Sister of Ramasawmey tewer the Ranee's Husband, at her death, he by the desire of the Raunee, married a second time, a woman named Vullee Ammay, by whom he had the present Boy. —

When first the adoption took place,

it

63 ~~82~~ 85

certainly gave great dissatisfaction, as the Inha-
-bitants, naturally wished, that a descendant of
the Siedputties, should succeed to the Pullom, —
During the Raunees life time, however, they
seemed to have been pretty well reconciled, to the
Measure, but I am sorry to say, that since her
death, the boys conduct, has been such, as to give
general disgust. Many who at first were desi-
-ous, that he should succeed to the Zemindary, now
wish the reverse, and the general wish at present,
certainly is, in favor of Siedputties Daughter

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

Tirmunglom
7th June 1812

To the Acting Magistrate
in Zillah of
Ramnad

Sir,

I have the honor to forward to you,
Copies of an Arzee, and Attachees, sent to me,
by the Aungon Tahsildar,

I cannot refrain from stating that Mo-
of the Ryots are now before me, and the Mark
of a rattan on their Backs are very apparent.

If the Inhabitants continue to meet with such interruptions, when Cultivating as stated in the Arzee - the Loss to the Circar, must evidently be very great.

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr

Madura
11th. June 1812

To the Acting Judge & Magistrate
in Zillah
Ramnad

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of the 5th. Instant, enclosing a Complaint against my Sheristadar. -

His reply together with depositions, obtained from people, who were present are now forwarded and I trust you will agree with me that the Complainants conduct, while in the Cutcherry was highly indecorous. -

As I consider, the Plaintiff still a Revenue Defaulter, I request, that he may be directed to attend at my Cutcherry, to adjust his Accounts, as early as possible. -

(Signed) R Peter
Collr

Madura

44 87

To the Collector of
Tanjore

Sir,

I beg leave to enclose, Extract of a lette[r] from the boys now on Survey in these Distri[cts] and have to request the favor of your directing your people to afford such assistance as may be necessary at the places therein named. —

Madura
23^d June 1812

(Signed) R. Peter
Coll^r.

To the Acting Judge of
Ramnad

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 3^d June 1812 enclos[ing] a Representation from Ullamail Chetty —

In Fusly 1217 Allamail Chetty took the Rent of Cumbom and Gordaloor Cardamom Hil[ls] for three years Viz^t.

Fusly 1217 for	8,000	Chuckrums
1218	9,000	D^o.
1219	10,000	D^o.

Being

Having failed in discharging his Kists, agreeable to his Engagements for fusly 1217 the Kists were assumed in fusly 1218 and continued under Assumption, till fusly 1219, when his Lease expired

The total Amount collected to the present date (after deducting Sebbendy Charges) is shewn in the Accompanying Statement

On the 15th December 1807 he represented to the Judge, that he had sustained a Loss of 600 Chuckrums by the Travancorians, this Amount, I have been directed by the Board of Revenue to deduct, till some Decision on the Subject has taken place - The claim therefore against him at present is (including Interest and after deducting the 600 Chuckms) Star Pagodas 7,531 - 35 - 52 for which sum he has been committed to Jail and his Property distrained. -

As to his having received an Enayetnamah stating that he was to have no further concern with the Rent, I am totally ignorant of it, nor do I believe he ever had an order of the Kind in his possession. -

With regard to the Representation of

Cooppen

45 F789

Coopyen Renter for fusly 1215 - I will reply to so soon as I have made some further enqu[iry] on the subject

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

Dindigul
10th July 1812

To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen

Para 1st. I have the honor to forward th[e] different Statements called for in your Secre-ry's letter of 7th. May. —

2d. In the present proposed List of Chow-kies, I have included nine additional ones, t[hus] making a total of 26 which number will, I t[hink], think, be sufficient, to embrace every principal Town and road in the District.

3d. The distribution made by Mr. Parish of the Old Chowkies, is so very advantageous, that I have not found it necessary to alter on[e] of them.

4th.

4th. In the Mogergabitah now submitted the pay of some of the Servants have been augmented, this I trust, will be approved of, as the Collections Monthly, at these places are far more considerable, than those at any of the others, and surely some distinction should be made, in the Salary of a Choukedar, who collects 2 & 300 + Pagodas pr. Mensem, and of one who only collects 50 or 60. It will be moreover holding fourth, encouragement to others, to exert themselves, in the hopes of getting a similar increase. I must therefore entreat your Board to sanction the Mogergabitah as it now stands.

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

Dindigul
12th. July 1812

To the Collector of
Coimbatore

Sir,

I have the honor to forward a Statement shewing the Quantity of Tobacco of all Descriptions now in the District, and the rates at which it is to be purchased from the Inhabitants

the

The prices in the Bazars and Shandies I have not been able yet correctly to ascertain.

Of the 1799. 5 – 6/2 Candies. 64 have already been purchased. I understand by your people, the remaining 1735 Candies 32 [illegible] 5 – 6/2 can be collected, and delivered to your Servants whenever you may require them.

The Quantity of this Article usually Cultivated in the District, exclusive of the [illegible] -darees, is about 1800 Candies. Should not howe[ver] Coimbatore hereafter be equal to the supply of Canara and Malabar, and you could acquaint me, with the number of Candies, you would re-quire yearly to make up the deficiency, I have not the smallest doubt, but that the Inhabitants would very readily cultivate sufficient for the supply. –

In the Board's letter to me, I am merely directed to afford your Agents Assistance in procuring the Tobacco. I should therefore conceive that the duty should be levied on the Actual Quantity delivered to them and not to

Ne[ ]

Mr. Warden but as you have forwarded Copy of your letter of the 2d. Instant to the Board I hope they will decide on the Subject & I shall therefore defer making any further reply until their Answer have been received.

Dindigul
23d. July 1812

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

P.S. As my people do not appear to know well, the kind of Tobacco which would Answer for the Markets of Canara & Malabar, I have to request that you will be so good as to send one of your Servants to instruct them or I fear much inconvenience will arise from their ignorance —

(Signed) R.P.
Collr.

To the President and Members
of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen

Your Secretary's letter of the 16th. Instant, enclosing Copy of a Report of the Poligars family now in confinement, at Poonamallee - I have

this

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To the President & Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Para 1st In the Moyenzabitah which I have now the honor to submit, I have made no other alterations, than those of having increased the pay of some of the Servants of the Pans, and decreased that of the Amildar included as Deputy Ameen, this I must entreat your Board to Sanction or at least to allow me a short trial of it, as I can hereafter easily make such alterations as I may find necessary should it not answer my expectations.

2d The most convincing proof that I can offer to your Board of my having paid some attention to this Department of Revenue is that the sales for Fusly 21 exceeds those of any former Years by 4 or 5000 Pagodas.

3d In augmenting the Pay of the different Servants, I have been guided by the size of the Pans, and the Collection of Salt Sold at each and as with the Choukies Servants the greater the Res-

this day, had the honor to receive.

As the people confined, appear exclusively to belong to Pandallancoorchey which is in the Tinnevelly District. I can give no decided opinion on the Subject unless, it is the wish of your Board, that I should state, if their release would be attended with any danger to this District if so. I can have no hesitation in saying that in my opinion, not the least danger is to be apprehended.

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

Dindigul
25th July 1812

48 95

Responsibility, the greater should be the recompen[se]

The allowance to the Ameen I m[ost]
most strongly recommend to be continued, as the
situation is one of considerable importance, &
requires great attention - it is therefore generally
given to an Old and vigilant Servant, and is
indeed a Kind of reward for his past Services
- such is the case at present, and I have hi-
-therto received great satisfaction from his
Conduct.

Since I have been in Charge I have
always had a person constantly moving from
Pan to Pan, to look after the Servants, this I am
Confident has been attended with much success,
and as one person I find is inadequate to the
duty it is my motive for wishing to appoint a
Deputy - I must therefore once more entreat your
Board to permit me to nominate one.

As to the Ameen and his Deputy
Coalescing I have not the smallest apprehension
of it myself, as I think there will be a

Mutual

mutual jealousy for power always between them and they will be in consequence a check on each other. —

To incorporate this Establishment with the Huzzoor would be attended with much inconvenience indeed, as the Peons are situated at so great a distance from Madura. —

Madura 1st August 1812 }

(Signed) R Peter Collr.

To the Acting Magistrate

Ramnad

Sir,

I beg leave to forward Copy of a letter, from the Secy. to the Board of Revenue with its enclosures and have to request that you will inform me, if you have any objections to the Shevagunga Rajahs entertaining a small body of armed Peons. —

Madura 24th Augt. 1812 }

(Signed) R Peter Collr.

To the Accountant General

Fort St. George

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the re-

-ceipt

49 97

-ceipt of your letter of the 18th Instant, I beg to inform you that the present State of my Treasury will not admit of my sending more than 10,000 Pagodas to the Collector of Trichinopoly which shall be despatched in the course of tomorrow or the next day.

(Signed) R. Peter Collr.

Madura
24th Augt. 1812

To the President and Members of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Having for the last ten Months been almost constantly on Circuit, the Expences of the Servants who accompanied me must have been considerable and as their pay is small they must in many instances, have exceeded it. I there-fore have to request that your Board will be pleased to authorize my giving two Madras fanms. per day Batta in future to those whom I may find it necessary to take with me

(Signed) R. Peter Collr.

Madura
24th Augt. 1812

To the President & Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Par 1st. I have the honor to forward the Estimates of Moyenzabitahs and other Charges for Fusly 1222. in the Districts of Dindigul Madura &c.

2d. In the Moyenzabitahs for Dindigul and the Talooks of Madura now transmitted I have thought it necessary to make some few alterations such as decreasing the Number of Gomastahs and Peons in one Talook and adding them to another, where I found their Services more immediately required but upon the whole I have caused a Decrease of Star Pagodas 21. Pr. Mensem or Star Pagodas 252. Pr. Annum.

3d. The number of Resaulah Peons I have diminished, to the utmost those now employed are absolutely necessary for the different Duties. I trust therefore your Board, will be pleased to sanction their continuance as well as the Resauldars who is an old Servant and has always served the Compa-

ny

-ry with zeal & fidelity.

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

Madura
28th Augt. 1812 }

To the President & Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

1. Your Secretary's Letter of the 16th Instant, I have had the honor to receive this day.

2. The allowance of 2 fanams pr. diem, which I recommended to be granted to the Servants in future, who accompany me during my tours thro' the District, I intended at first, should extend only to those whose pay did not exceed 12 Pagodas pr. Mensem — Peons were not included but as their pay is so very small, I must beg that an allowance of 1 fanam pr. diem may be extended to them, especially in such times as the present when the prices of the Articles of Life have risen to so enormous a height.

3. The Amount supposing the whole of the Cutcherry accompanied me (which is seldom the case) independent forming the Sumnabaud would

would not exceed 36 Pags. pr Month but for the Servants I actually take with me it will not Amount to more than 16 Pags. pr Mensem Viz.

	Ps. f c
5 Roysmdars & Gomastahs &c @ 2 fans. ea.	6. 30. ..
1 Writer @ 2 fanams	1. 15. ..
12 Peons @ 1 .. do.	8. .. ..
	16. .. ..

4th. I trust therefore that your Board will grant this indulgence, & that I shall receive your early Sanction for the Disbursement.

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

Ramnad
26th. Septr. 1812

To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

1st. I have the honor to forward, a Statement, shewing the Extent of this years Cultivation in this District.

2d. It is with much regret, I have to inform your Board, of the unfavorable State, of the

the whole of the Country, under my Charge.—

3d. Since July 1811. scarcely a drop of Rain has fallen and the distress which has been occasioned by such a failure, will be best shewn, by the accompanying Extracts from the Diaries of the different Tehsildars.—

4th. Many thousands of the Inhabitants, have quitted the District. Many I much fear, have perished, from absolute want and parents, in innumerable instances, seek to part with their Children, as the only means of preserving their lives.—

5th. Paddy which formerly sold for 4. 5. & 6 Cully fanams pr. Cullom is now 18 & 20, (increasing daily) and to be procured, but with the greatest difficulty.—

6th. Such being the case and as there is no appearance whatever of rain, some measures ought to be adopted to remedy as much as possible so great an evil as a famine. I would therefore recommend, that some encouragement be held forth to those, who would undertake, to import

grain

grain at the different ports on the coast between Pondy and Killacurray for if this District be not supplied by some means or other the sufferings of the people must be dreadful.

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

Ramnad
26th Septr. 1812

To the Acting Judge and Magistrate
Ramnad

Sir

In charge of a Peon, I send two people named Rambachee Goundan, and Mutta-men. During the disturbances in Veru-patchee in 1804 these people were attached to Letchma naick, but escaped to Palghautcherry some days previous to his seizure.

As such a length of time has elapsed since the Rebellion took place, and as they voluntarily surrendered themselves to my people, I beg leave to recommend that they may be permitted to return to their Villages, giving Security for their future good conduct.

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

Ramnad
30th Septr. 1812

52 103

To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue,

Gentlemen,

Tho' the Map of the Province of Dindigul, is not to be found in this Office yet from the accompanying letter of Mr. Hurdis, it would appear, that one had been completed and forwarded in 1801. to your Board.—

It was executed by Assistant Surveyors John Ambrose Johnson, Thomas Turnbull, and James Allan, and a Copy no Doubt, must have been deposited in this Cutcherry but from the Ruinous state of the building, the rains and white ants, during the absence of the Collr. when forming the Settlement in 1811. destroyed the case in which all Maps were Kept; and I have reason to suppose that this suffered with others.—

(Signed) R. Peter Collr.

Ramnad
30th. Septr. 1812

To the President & Members
of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Government having been at a
con

considerable expense in cleansing the Fort of Madura, I have to request your Sanction for the employment of two Carts to carry away the Dirt and Filth which is daily accumulating. The Hire including Bandyman will not exceed 10 Pagodas p. Mensem

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr

Ramnad
2d Octr 1812

To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen

I have the honor to acknowledge, the receipt, of your Secretary's letter of the 16th Ultr.

The number of Choukies in this District is 26 agreeable to the accompanying List, and I would recommend, that each Choukeydar be furnished with two Chops only - One, an inch and a Quarter square, and another 3/4 of an inch square, as I think the size proposed by your Board rather small - I would also recommend, that the name of the Choukie be put on each seal, with the word "coarse" on the large, and "fine" on the small; one to be used for the Coarse Cloths, and the other for fine -

If a greater number of Seals is

granted

93 105

granted, I conceive, that the means of cheating must certainly be increased—

Ramnad 8th Octr 1812

(Signed) R. Peter Collr.

To the President & Members of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen

I loose no time in acquainting your Board, that since my letter of the 26th Ultimo there has been a considerable fall of rain &ca, I am happy to say, it has been pretty General throughout the District, as there is a Quantity of Water in the River—no fears of a Scarcity need I think, be now apprehended.

Ramnad 10th Octr 1812

(Signed) R. Peter Collr.

To the President & Members of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen

Para 1st. I had the honor to receive your Secretary's letter, dated 5th Instant last Night, and in reply, I beg leave to state, that the Scarcity, in my Opinion, never became so very alarming, as to re[quire] the

the Assistance of Government, to remedy it untill with-
-in a very short period, previous to my Communica-
-ting it to your Board -

That there has been a scarcity, for some time past cannot be denied, but not to any very alarming extent, till latterly - as long as there were any hopes of Rain, Rice was to be procured, though Certainly at a high rate in the Bazar - The instant these hopes vanished, which was not very long before I addressed your Board, those people who possessed Grain hoarded it up, in the hopes that they would be able to dispose of it hereafter at an exorbi-
-tant Rate - unfortunately for them, however the sudden fall of Rain has I trust, disappointed their speculations - as Grain has all ready fallen in price and will of course, decrease Daily -

With regard to the neighbouring Districts supplying this, I doubt if they have the means of so doing - for, if Grain was Cheap and abundant in the surrounding Countries, would not Merchants have been glad, to have taken their Grain, to a District, where they were sure of finding a Market for it and of selling it at an enhanced price -

As

As this has not been the Case, fr
this Circumstances alone, I think, the inference
is but fair that the Merchants could not afford
or had not the power to supply the District
and that therefore the Grain could not have been
in that abundance, in those provinces, as your
Board, are incline to suppose. —

Adverting to the emigration of the
Inhabitants, this is not, at all an uncommon
thing, in most Districts I believe, during a
Draught or when it is not the season for Cul
-tivation, if the Articles of life are to be procu
in the neighbouring Countries at a Cheaper Rate
than in their own, they retire thither, until the tim
for Cultivation arises, or till food is Cheaper, t
when they return to their homes and Cultivat
as usual. —

Both combined have been the
cause of their emigration in the present year,
and as the Scarcity has been greater and of
longer continuance in this than in former
years so has the emigration of course been
larger but I am happy to say, as there has
been

been almost constant rain, since I last addressed
your Board, more than half of the Inhabitants
I am told, have already returned to their Villages
and the whole may be expected very shortly —

Had not this favorable Change taken
place in the weather the Assistance proposed by
your Board for the relief of the Country would
have been much needed. as it is unless any un=
foreseen Circumstances occur, I trust it will
not be now required. —

As the Cutcherry Servants have ob=
tained leave of absence for three days during
the Dusara feast I am unable now, to forward
the Statements called for in the 5th & 9th Paragraph
as soon as they return, they shall be transmitted
without delay. —

Your Board may rest assured, that it
is and always has been my endeavor to alleviate
as much as in my power, the distresses of all
Classes of people under my Charge - did not my
own feelings lead me to do so, knowing it is the
wish of every British Government that the peo
=ple under their Control should be as happy as
it is possible for a liberal and just Government

to make them would have been sufficient induce-
-ment for me, to have used every exertion to re-
-lieve as much as possible, the sufferings of
its subjects - I trust therefore, Gentlemen,
that you will not Consider my silence, owing
to inattention to their welfare - the scarcity, did
not strike me, as being so very alarming, nor
was it so indeed, until a very short time before
I addressed you - The cause of the sudden
Change, was most undoubtedly owing to all
signs of rain having disappeared - which caused
those who possessed Grain to Keep it up in the
hopes of benefitting by it hereafter - which they
Certainly would have done, had not a Change
of Moon brought with it a Change of weather.

I have already made such advan-
-ces as I found necessary, and shall assist as
much as possible, the people in recovering from
their late distresses. (Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

Ramnad
15th Octr. 1812

P.S. The word "formerly" in my letter alludes
to years previous to the present scarcity - In any
ordinarily favorable Season, Grain is to be procured
at the rates mentioned -

To the Collector of
Tanjore

Sir,

I had the honor to receive your letter of the 17th Instant last night and have the pleasure to acquaint you, that in consequence of a sudden fall of rain, in these Districts, the Aid which I solicited from the Board will not now be required.

(Signed) R Peter
Collr.

Ramnad
19th Octr. 1812

To the Collector of Coimbatore

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th Instant. As there has been a considerable fall of rain in these Districts since the end of last Month, I trust that there will be no need now for the assistance which you propose. Should it however be required hereafter I shall lose no time in giving you the earliest notice of it.

(Signed) R Peter
Collr.

Ramnad
29th Octr. 1812

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To the Collector of

Tinnevelly

Sir,

By a letter, which I have received from the Board of Revenue, I have been made acquainted with the instructions which have been transmitted to you to afford such Assistance as you could command for the relief of the Districts under my Charge.

As a considerable fall of Rain has lately taken place, it has caused the Merchants to open their Granaries and has for the present, at least dissipated all fears which may have been entertained of a famine. Should I hereafter require your Aid in supplying the District with Grain I shall lose no time in communicating with you on the Subject.

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

Ramnad
28th Octr. 1812

To the Collector of

Trichinopoly

Sir,

By a letter, which I have recd. from

from the Board of Revenue, I have been made
acquainted with the instructions which have been
transmitted to you, to afford such Assistance as
you could command, for the relief of the Dis-
tricts under my Charge.

As a considerable fall of Rain
has lately taken place, it has caused the Merchants
to open their Granaries and has, for the present,
at least dissipated all fears which may have
been entertained of a Famine. Should I here-
after require your Aid in supplying the Dis-
tricts with Grain, I shall lose no time in
communicating with you on the Subject.

(Signed) R. Peter

Ramnad
28th Octr. 1812

To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to forward, State-
ments shewing the average prices of grain, as
called for in your Secretary's letter of 2d. January
last.

When your Board, consider how very
sickly my Huckaree Servants have been, & that
I was taken ill myself shortly after the receipt
of

57 #115

of your instructions, I trust some little al-
-lowances will be made, for my having omitted
to forward the Statements before— In future
they shall be transmitted regularly—

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

Ramnad
29th Octr. 1812

To the President & Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to enclose a
Sick Certificate granted to Mr. Jessup, my
Assistant who has, at the recommendation
of the Assistant Surgeon of the Zillah, pro-
-ceeded this Day to Colombo for Change of
Air—

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

Ramnad
28th Octr. 1812

To the President & Members
of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to forward a
Statement, Comparative, shewing the Cultiva-
-tion of Fuslies 1221 & 1222 up to the 30th Septr.

in each year.—

In fusly 1221 the number of Cawnies Cultivated is .... 66567 15½ as.

In fusly 1222 .... 43961 8¾

making a difference of 22606 6¾

which is entirely attributable, to the total failure of rain. Had the season been at all favorable, I am convinced, from the measures which had been adopted, the Cultivation in the present would have far surpassed, that of last year – and it is, I trust, the Nunjah Cultivation will yet be very considerable

Ramnad
29th Octr 1812

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr

To the Accountant General
Fort Saint George

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23d Instant and shall in future, have my Account Current copied on paper, of the size specified by you – tho' I think, myself, it will be found, very small, for the number of heads &c which is to be entered

Ramnad
29th Octr 1812

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr

58 115

To the President & Members
of the
Board of Trade

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to forward a Quarterly Statement, ending with July exhibiting the Gross Value of Articles exported & imported, at the only frontier Choukie in the Districts under my Charge.

As the Trade is very trifling, few remarks can be required on the subject. The imports far exceed the exports as the Statement will shew and consist almost exclusively of Boiled Beetle Nuts.

(Signed) R Peter Collr.

Ramnad
4th Novr.

To the Magistrate of
Coimbatoor

Sir, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letters, and in reply have to state that on the introduction of the Perma-

-nent

-nent system in the Province of Dindigul-

the lands formerly allowed to Cawalgars, were assumed — In the Polliams of Dindigul & Manapara no allowance was ever granted, I believe to a Cawilgar — the Naad inhabitants were considered in some degree responsible, for the good conduct of the Ryots — when a robbery took place — the Nattomkars considered it their duty to apprehend the thieves, and to deliver them over to the Cutcherry. —

Ramnad —
4th Nov.r 1812

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I beg leave to forward the Statemt. called for in the 9th Para. of your Secretary's letter of the 5th Ultimo. —

I have already informed your Board of the ravages, which the fever has made, as well as of the almost total failure of the Showers which usually fall, between May & August — to these two causes, is to be attributed the vast difference

in

in the Cultivation of the present Fusly compared
with that of Fuslies 17 & 18 —

(Signed) R. Peter Collr.

Ramnad }
6th Novr. 1812 }

To the President and Members
of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

As a Map of the Madura
District has already been forwarded to the
Office of the Actg. Surveyor General — I beg leave
to request that I may be furnished with a
Copy of it. and to suggest that it may be
inserted on the same sheet with the Plan
of Shevagunga —

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

Ramnad }
23d Novr. 1812 }

To the Judge & Magistrate in Zillah
Ramnad

Sir,

Agreeably to the resolution of the
Acting Magistrate Communicated to me in
his letter of the 26th August last, I have this day,
by order of the Board of Revenue, sent 30 —

Rons.

Peons, belonging to the Rajah of Shevagunga to require Pustucks entitling them to Carry swords.

Signed / R. Peter Collr

Ramnad
24th Novr 1812

To the President and Members
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen

Para 1st. I have the honor to lay before you a Jummabundy of the Provinces of Madura, Dindigul, Ramnad &ca for Fusly 1221.

2. In my address of the 1st March last, I stated the arrangements I was desirous of adopting for the Settlement of the Districts of Dindigul & Madura. — I proceeded accordingly to the former Province and formed the Settlemt on the Actual Cultivation of the year, Amounting to Star Pagodas 42612: 37 23 as is shewn in Statements A B & C. —

Statement A B &c.

3d. I have already at different times made your Board acquainted with the ravages the Fever has made, as well as with the total failure of the periodical Rains in the last year, But I cannot refrain from mentioning the state, in which I found a number of Villages in the neighbourhood of Places I was obliged to encamp at. In those

which

formerly contained from 60 to 100 huts, I found no more, than from 4 to 10 - most of the Inhabitants, having died, and some few having lost their friends and relations, quitted them, to escape the Dreadful malady - and I observed, moreover, that the greater part of the Lands, which were then Cultivating, were Cultivated by Children - some even, could scarcely hold the Plough -

4th. The above is by no means an exaggerated Statement; indeed the number of Deaths alone, which may be estimated at least at 27,930 will sufficiently prove, how dreadful this disease has been -

Statement D.

5th. In Statement D is shewn the Jummah and Kistbundy of the six Estates in the possession of the Zemindars Amounting to Star Pagodas 17,844. 25. 70 making a total of the 35 Estates of Star Pagodas 61,457. 18. 13.

Statement E. & F.

6th. The Triennial Lease in Madura, &c having expired in Fusly 1220 the same mode of Settlement as adopted in Dindigul, was adopted in Madura, and I have now the honor to forward a Jummah and Kistbundy of that District.

7th.

7th In Madura Poonjeh is chiefly Cultivated, and in consequence the Increase or Decrease in the extent of Cultivation, depends more on the regular fall of showers, at the early part of the season, that perhaps, almost any other District.

8th In Trichinopoly and Tanjore the Inhabitants do not, I believe, depend so much on the fall of Rain for Nunjeh being more Cultivated than Poonjeh, the River Cauvery coming down, fills the various tanks, and secures them against all fear of a want of Water.

9th In Madura, there is also a River (the Vygay) but it fills so seldom, and is down for so short a time, that the supply of Water it furnishes, is by no means adequate to the extent of Nunjeh Cultivation. If, therefore, there is failure in the rains, the Cultivation is decreased in an equal proportion. This was the case during fusly 1221, and has caused a Decrease in Revenue, independent of the fever.

10th The number of Deaths may be computed at 44528.

11th In Statement G is shewn the Jummah and Kistbundy of the Pollams of Dindigul

Statemt. G

16
6
2

Manaparia, Madura &ca amounting to
258993. 17. 76.—

12th In Shevagunga, and Ramnad the Deaths by fever, have been few, but in the remaining Pollams, the number is estimated at 32,488. so that I trust, some allowance will be made for those Zemindars not being quite so exact in Discharge of their Kists as they usually have been

The number of Deaths entered is I think rather low. In Dindigul excluding the Pollams & Madura, I conceive between 130 & 140,000 People have been carried off by the fever since its Commencement.

13th In my Report of the Settlement of Fusly 1220 I informed your Board that I had been directed by Mr Parish to rent out the Cardamon Hills for three years, the accompanying [illegible] of

[illegible]ant. H

Jummah and Kistbundy for the present Fusly Amounting to Star Pagodas 1,303. 1. 29.

14th Tho' the Renter has not been so punctual in the Discharge of his Kists, as I could have wished, yet, as it has been owing to his not being able to find a Market for his Cardamons, and as I have a sufficient Quantity of them in my possession, to answer all demands against him, I trust, your Board will approve, of my granting him a little time to dispose of his Articles to

advantag[illegible]

advantage.

15th. I have the honor to forward a Jummah and Kistbundy of the whole of the Sq. Atti rents of Dindigul, amounting to 5375 3/4 7c. making an Increase on Fusly 1220. to Star Pagodas 218. 8. 14. — Statemt. I & J

16th. I also forward Statements shewing the actual Gross Collections, Charges & Nett Revenue of the Sayer Chowkies, as well as the Gross Collections at the Salt Pans in Sheevaganga and Ramnad, Amounting to Star Pagodas 50,648. 1. 27. a sum exceeding any former years by 8,820. 3. 12.

Statemt. K

Sayer Statemt.	24121. 20. 67
Salt. Do.	26,526. 25. 40
	50,648. 1. 27
Sayer 1219.	19181. 21. 76
Salt 1219.	22,646. 21. 17
	41,827. 43. 15
Increase.	8820. 3. 12

Statemt. L.

17th. The Rent for the Arrack Farms Amts. to Star Pagodas 7870. 39. 23. which exceeds that of Fusly 1220 by Star Pagodas 2712. 18. 68.

18th. The revenue derived from Stamp Paper Amounts to Star Pagodas 2368. 28. 18. making a total Gross Revenue of the Districts under my Charge of Star Pagodas 470,667. 91. 62. — Statemt. N; Statemt. O with No. 1.

19th. Tho the total Gross Revenue of Fusly 1221. is less by Star Pagodas 44,191. 17. 40. than that of Fusly 1220. yet when the losses which

the

62 123

the District has sustained in its Inha-
-bitants, as well as the total failure of Rain
are taken into consideration, the Settlemt.
will I trust, prove satisfactory, and I
must take the liberty of observing, that in
those branches of Revenue, in which it
was possible to make an increase, an In-
-crease, has been made, to some Amount.

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

Ramnad 25th Novr.
1812

To the Collector of Coimbatoore

Sir,

Having reason to ~~suppose that my~~ Salt Servants, still continue, the practice of entering only a part, in the Register of which they send to the Cutcherry, of what is actually entered in the Rawannah - I beg leave to send you a Register of Rawannahs which have been taken to your District during the last Month, & shall be obliged by your giving strict orders to your Servants to collect as many as can be found & to

forward

forward them to me —

I have given orders regarding the subject of your letter of the 3rd Instant & I think if you were to send me, a Register of the Rawannahs which may be issued for this District Monthly - it will tend greatly to check the Malpractices of Servants

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your most Obed.t Servant

(Signed) R. Peter

Collr.

Ramnad
27th Nov.r 1812

To the Judge and Magistrate
in Zillah
Ramnad

Sir,

Having been directed, by the Board of Revenue to ascertain the exact age of the young Zemindar of Ramnad (the adopted Son of the late Rannee) and as I understand there were some causes in Court in which his age is mentioned I shall feel obliged by your sending me extracts from those causes they are 1766 5211 & 5212 —

(Signed) R. Peter

Collr.

Ramnad
30th Nov.r 1812

93

125

To the Accountant General
Fort St. George

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, of 28th Ultimo & in reply beg to state, that it will not be in my power, to remit any Money to the Presidency, at the end of this Month for the following reasons. –

1st. Tho' there appeared a Balance in my Treasury at the 1st of this Month of 23051 – 40 – 55 yet the actual Sum is no more than from 7 to 8000. – the difference has been occasioned by various expenses which have been long submitted for Sanction – and only require a few further explanations (which I shall afford in a day or two) to receive authority for its being brought to account.

2d. The early part of the Season was so unfavorable to the Ryots – and the Cultivation in consequence so little that to attempt to

Other

Collect the Kists in full, would be highly impolitic, if not impracticable —

Ramnad 5th Decr. 1812. (Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

To the Civil Auditor
Fort St. George

Sir,

I beg leave to forward the accompanying Statements and request, that I may receive Sanction for the entry of the different Charges on my Accounts —

On the 7th November 1810 — I requested the Sub Treasurer to pass his receipt for Nos. 1 & 2. but I have not been favored with a reply — For No. 3 by some Mistake the prescribed Certificate was not received or has been lost. the order however of the Commanding Officer, furnishing the guard as well as his Bill for Batta and the Collr. receipt are here enclosed — which I hope, you will consider sufficient — For No. 4. I have no receipt the Bandy only went to Shadow, and returned —

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

Ramnad 5th Decr. 1812.

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To the President & Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to forward a Statement Comparative Shewing the Cultivation of fuslies 1221 & 1222 up to the 30th Novr. in each year.

In Mellove, and Nuttom the rain which has fallen, has been less in these than in any other Talook which will account for the Cultivation, not exceeding that of last year.

(Signed) R. Peter
Colr.

Ramnad 10th Decr.
1812

To the Judge & Magistrate
in Zillah
Ramnad

Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 21st November I beg leave to inform you that the Zemindar of Shevagunga declares his inability to prepare the Accounts required by you in less than two Months. The same

length

length of time will likewise be required for the preparation of the Accounts of the Ramnad Zemindary.

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

Ramnad 18th Decr.
1812.

To Lieutenant Cowan
Commanding Detachmt. 1st Bn.
17th [illegible]
Palamcottah

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th from Madura.

When I receive timely Notice of Detachments approaching my District people are dispatched to conduct them [illegible] it and to afford whatever Assistance [illegible] might be required - but if Officers do [illegible] give me sufficient time to send these peo[illegible] they must blame themselves for it.

Your letter from Samiaveram reached me, on the 9th a day after you were to have entered the District.

There is another circumstance I wish to remark - your having omitted, to state the number of Men with you the stages you intended to halt at - the things you would require

at each Station which is in conformity to ye Regulation of 1810 you should have done but as you merely Complain that a respectable person had not been furnished you, to conduct you through the district – I suppose, and hope your Detachment has been supplied with the things it required.

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

Ramnad
1st Decr. 1812

To the President & Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to forward my Reply to Retrenchments in fuslies 1216. 19 & 20

When Mr. Hurdis formed the Settlement of these Districts, he likewise regulated the allowances to Pagodas, and they have continued with very little variation, till the present period –

Statemt. No. 1. In Statement No. 1 is shewn what was fixed by Mr. Hurdis by that Gentleman as well as the Actual Charges for fusly 1216. By this

this Statement you will observe that exclusive of the Dindigul Davestanoms, the Hufta Davestanom and Urda Maunium (or half share of the Revenue derived from three Villages) which is applied to the payment of the Charges of Arakuttay and Establishment of Sibbendy attached to the Hufta Davestanom - there a[re] 15 small or petty Pagodas, and the allowances as established Amount to 2204. 12. 51.

To defray these Charges the Re[venue] (after deducting a certain Poroposo) of 68 V[illages] was to have been appropriated, and as [Mr.] Hurdis did not enter it in his Summar[y] Account, it seems to have been his Wis[h that] the Revenue derived from these Villages, [should] be applied exclusively to the Covils, and that the increase in the receipts in one year should make good whatever deficiency might occur in any other - but as the Collectors under a Circula[r] letter from your Board of 21st May 1807 were Directed to include in their Estimates all allow=ances to Pagodas, the Amount for the 15 Chil=lara Davestanoms was also included and

Vide Statemt. No. 2 (such as made out for Chuttrums)

the

66 4-131

the Collections brought to account Monthly –

In this year the Charges in some exceed the Russeek, which may have been occasioned by repairs &ca. but on the whole, the Amount is not greater than the regulated allowances to Pagodas.

Tho' the Sum of 7474. 31. 49 as your Board remark was deducted from the Summabundy of fusly 1216. and subsequently Charged as a disbursement, yet the whole was afterwards brought to Account as Revenue of that year. –

Of the allowances to Chuttrums – No alterations whatever have taken place, since they were settled by Mr. Hurdis when he completed his Summabundy of Madura.

Statemt. No. 3. Statement No. 3 exhibits the Number and allowances to each and the names of Villages attached to them is detailed in No.

Statemt. No. 4. 4 as well as the Poroopoo which is Deducted. –

To each Chuttrum is an Establish-

Statemt. No. 5. -ment of a Newsindah, Sumpurdy, and Piro

and the number of people allowed to be fed daily is 648. consisting of travellers who only receive one days rice or paddy & then Depart.

Vide Statemt. No. 6

The sum of 1549. 35. 49. which is entered as Charges for Pagodas in fusly 1219. is only from the 1st. of May to the 12th. of July 1810.

In this year my predecessor found it necessary to reduce the allowances of several of the petty Pagodas owing to the Collections & not being equal to the Charges, the Tusdeek therefore at present is 2082. " "

In fusly 1220. the Charges exceed the Collections. tho' not the Tusdeek. this is owing to the Actual Collections only on Acct. of Hufta & Chillara Davustanoms being brought to account Monthly.

Vide Statemt. No. 7

Statement No. 7 shews the Collections in fusly 1221 on Account of that year and fusly 1220 making a Balance of Collections above the Charges in favor of the Davustanoms & Pagodas. 877. 38. 49.

Since the Lists of Yomeadars forwarded by Mr. Hurdis and Mr. Parish no fur-

ther

their addition have taken place than what I explained in the Statements forwarded on the 29th February last.

With the exceptions of 30 Yomeahs [...] Board (whose names are now forwarded) the remainder possess no other means of subsistence than what their Yomeahs affords them I therefore beg leave to recommend that they be continued to them during their lives & leaving your Board to determine hereafter if any of their relations shall enjoy them after the death of the present Incumbents.

... No. 8.

With regard to the Yomeahs granted to Women tho' they are nominally for the performance of religious Ceremonies yet they were given to them from Charity and no duties of the Kind are expected from them.

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

...unnead —
... Decr. 1812

To

To the President & Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Secretary's letter directing me to take further evidence regarding the real Age of the adopted Son of the late Raven

I commenced my Enquiries on the 30th Ultimo but from the vast Quantities of Rain which fell I could not conclude them before the 12th of Decr.

Your Board must be well aware of the difficulties I have had to encounter in endeavouring to ascertain the truth of a subject, which at all events is interesting to one party, if not to all, and must well know, how easy it is, to bribe over any number of evidences to swear to any falsity - I trust therefore if my opinion is not so decided as you could wish, that allowances may be made for the situation in which I am placed.

That

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That the evidences of the parties have been tutored to state what they have Deposed, there can be no doubt of — I think but which bears the strongest mark of truth, is what must be determined — In almost the whole of the attestations which I have taken, only the date of the day, year, and Month, on which the Young Rajah was born can be brought to recollection, even tho' so many years have elapsed since the occurrence took place, & yet many could not tell the Month, or date, on which they were then giving their depositions —

This is worthy of consideration and tho' it might be said that from so particular a circumstance of the boys being adopted, it might remain in their Remembrance longer than other common occurrences, yet in reply it can be stated that the Raunee only took him at first under her care and protection, as she did many others, but did not adopt him until

after

after she was put in possession of the Zemindary And also after her husbands Death, which was in 1803. and there being therefore so exact as to Dates I can give in favor of neither party.

I shall consequently leave it for your Board to determine this point from the translates of the testimonies which have been taken & which are now forwarded.

The young Rajah or adopted Child of the Raunee has adduced 13 Witnesses to swear to his having been born in Chittray Month, Anundah year. The first witness called was Sharnauyen an Astrologer

He affirms that the Child was born in Chittray, Anundah year that the Raunee was at Madras when he was born, that he was 1 year & 9 Months Old when the Raunee took him under her protection and finally will swear, that the young Zemindar was 18 Years of Age last Chittray, he likewise produces a Zatacum which was taken at his birth. (It is necessary to remark, as no name is mentioned this Zatacum may

Vide No. 1. Translate A in 9 No. 1.

have been for his Brother

The Statement of this evidence &
however is more clear than most.

The next witness called was Bir-
madah Cow, who deposed as above with the
No. 2. Difference, that the Child was 1 Year and 8
Months Old, when the Raunee took her
under her care.

Sawmy Cawen, was then called
much reliance should not be placed on the
°. 3. evidence of this Man. I think, that he has
in bundle 2 signed the paper B to my mind, is clearly &
6 proved, by the Depositions of Coopanapillay
and Mootalager Iyen, and many more, could
have been brought forward, to attest the same
if it had been at all necessary, but I con-
ceived two quite sufficient.

The next witness was Moottoo
4 Irlah Cawen, the person who called Shama-
Iyen &c. The testimony of this man I think
should be rejected altogether. He has evidently
been told, what to depose — he is a poor ignorant
Creature

creature, and could not even tell the Month or year, on which he was then giving his evidence yet recollected perfectly the day & year, on which the young Rajah was born, which is rather extraordinary - His answers to some few questions, which I put to him were so truly ridiculous, that I have not inserted them.

No. 5 The next Gooroo Sheva nauda pillay was present when the Braamins told the Raunee and her husband, that the Child was born in Chittray - Anundah Year and as it was a lucky Month, he might be adopted. He makes the young Man however older than most of the others, as in the Month Vyashee, Pinglaw Year, he says that he was 4 years of Age.

No. 6. The next was Kistnyengar. He was formerly Pr. Minister, but was deprived of his Situation and put into Confinement by Moottooramalingom Seedputty, then the Rajah of Ramnad. While in confinement the Mother of the young Rajah in Aunee Month, Anundah year, came with him, then about 3 or 4 Months Old to the house of Vanee tewen, where he was

Confined

Confined, and requested of Vanee Cawen to intercede for her Husband, who was also confined, and to get him released: this he promised to do, at a convenient opportunity. - To controvert this evidence, Veerabutra pillay on the opposite part declares, that he had the Charge of Kistnyengar while in Confinement, and that Vullee Amay never came there with the Child.

Vide No. 10 in bundle 2.

The next was Authanarrayn. He avers that he heard the late Raunee say that the young Rajah was born in Anundah Year. -

Sheik Auchareea's deposition needs no comment, except, that he makes the Rajah 4 years Old in Pinglaw Year. -

Anunta Kistnyengar, states that the same year in which the Raunee arrived from Madras, the Child was brought to her. That when the Zatacum was brought by Shamaiyen and others, he was present and read it - which declared the Child to be born in Chittray Anundah - year.

The

No. 10. The next called is Chutta-nauda Isshegen Astrologer - this witness deposes at some length he was sent for by the Raunee when at Ramasweram in Shelawthee Year and protected by her afterwards - In Rowthree Year, he saw the Zatacum, which the first witness had, stating the Rajah, to be born in Chittray - Anundah year - In the Year Atchayaw, as it was his intention to go to Travencore, he was directed by the Raunee to demand of some renowned fortune teller in that Country, the good or bad fortune of the young Rajah - which he did, & as it did not Correspond with the one she had before received she allowed it to remain with him, a Copy of which is sent.

Written on 8 Cadjan Leaves.

With regard to his Village being assumed the accompanying Extract will shew the cause of it, and your Board can give that part of the deposition what Degree of Credit you think it deserves.

C Extract of Arzee from Geyagaraug pillay

No. 11. The next Witness called was Jagganaud Iyengar - He has also given in a very long Statement - I must observe, that

this

this evidence contradicted himself more than once, so that I shall leave your Board in this instance also, to Determine what Credit, should be given to this witness's assertions.

As the Young Rajah appeared to wish, that his father & Mother might be examined at the Palace — I sent two trusty people with some Questions, to which they replied. By their Statements, they make him about 19 next Chittray, which it was of course their interest to do.

12. Moottoopurpa
& 13 Vulleeamay

Thus far, the evidences to prove the Rajah of Age.

To disprove this, I have taken the depositions of 11 people, some of whom were employed about the person of the late Raunee. The first called was Cootaunee a dairy Maid.

She states, that one day after the Raunee's Arrival Vullee Amay (the Young Mans Mother) brought a Child to the Palace, that Rau Katay, the Watcher informed

informed her of it - that she was directed to bring it, which she did, and the Raunee asked the Mother, the Age of the Child - she said that it was three Months Old - that the Raunee's husband did not wish her to take the Child under her protection as it was born, in an unlucky Month which was Chittray -

No. 2. Raukalay declares nearly the same -

No. 3. Coopana pillay was next called, he has been in the Raunee's family upwards of 30 Years and asserts most positively that the adopted Child was born in Chittray Nullaw year - he was also present when & Sawmy tewen signed the paper B. -

No. 4. The next Witness examined, was Soobramoney pillay, who was employed as Vakeel - He states, that he took a letter to two Natives at Madras, that he in reply to the letter & was directed by these people to tell Teyagaraug pillay to make the Age of the Boy, such as to prove him of Age - which Teyagaraug pillay declined doing -

Thomas

72 H/143

No. 5. Shonca narraen Syengar was called, and deposes that the Raunee took the Child under her protection about 8 Months after her arrival it was then about 2 or 3 Months Old.

No. 6. Moslalager Syen is next examined, and is ready to swear that Sawmy lawen signed the accompanying translate.

No. 7 Angaullamay
No. 8 Purvathom
No. 9 Moottoo Terovoogee

Angaullamay, Purvathom, & Moottoo Terovoogee, three attendants on the Raunee deposes the same as to the age of the Child, when brought to the Raunee they all assert, that he was not more than two or three Months Old.

No. 10 Veerabuttra pillay was next called he had the care of Kistnyengar when he was in Confinement, and asserts that the Kistnyengar, never could have seen Vullee Amay and moreover that at that time the young Rajah was not born.

No. 11. The last deposition taken was that of Ramasawmey Goorkul to prove that Birmadah Row was no Meerassdar of Pulla-

yar

-yar Court, there were several others to prove the same, but whose deposition, I thought it of little use to take. —

Thus far, for the evidences, but as

No. 12. I was desirous of hearing what Rungyengar had to say, I sent for him, and examined him — He denies every thing Jagganaud Iyengar asserts and states the same reason for assuming Chuttanaudee's Village, as Teyagaraus pillay does. —

I also forward Extracts from

Vide D. trials, in which the Raunee was Plaintiff and Defendant, by which it will appear that the young Rajah was only 11 Years of Age in December 1806 which makes him 18 Years of Age next Chittray. —

Thus having collected every Document which I conceive can possibly afford your Board any information and assistance in determining on the Age of the Boy I now have the honor to submit them for your consideration. —

That the Rajah is not of the Age he wishes to make himself is evident, I think from the Extracts of trials furnished by the

Court

Court (which I place more reliance on than all the Depositions, from their having been given at a time, when a dispute of this kind could never have been thought of) these &c make at the utmost 18 only next Chittray. I think therefore that he should be put in possession of the Zemindary on his next birth day, or if your Board place more reliance on the evidences brought forward by him than I do, he can be put in possession at once, as he ought to be capable of managing the Zemindary from his having been accustomed to transact business in the Kutcharee, during the Raunee's life time. –

Ramnad 23^d Decr. 1812. (Signed) R. Peter Coll^r.

To the President & Members
of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen

I have the honor to reply to the different Queries contained in the Extract of the proceedings of the Board of Trade dated 23^d. July

Query 1st

Is Cotton Cultivated & to what extent in the Districts of Dindigul Madura &c.

The Extent of Land is Cultivated in fusly 21 together with the extent of ground which might be cultivated with cotton is shewn in Statement A.—

2d. Is there any Import or Export of the Article from the District.—

In Madura & Ramnad a Considerable quantity is exported, both by sea, & Land. in Dindigul the Export is trifling. In neither of the places is there any imported.—

3d. What is the usual price pr. Candy of 500 pound.

The present selling prices are pr. Load of 12 Potams 14 Pags. or pr. Candy 2 3½/16 Loads or 500 lbs. 31. 2. 65 and in ordinary seasons or when the Crops at first comes in, it is to be procured at from 22. 8. 35 to 25 Pags. pr Candy.

4th. What is the time of sowing & plucking and what the usual mode of Cultivation

In some parts of the District the Inhabitants commence ploughing and clearing the ground in April, in others in June. It is ploughed about 5 times in most places but in some 6 & 7 and well manured & the seed is sown in the Month

of

of August (latter end) Septr.
October & November. The day
previous to its being sown, it
is soaked in Water mixed with
Cowdung.

The plants are twice
or oftener hoed, & cleared of
Weeds and from February to
April they are plucked.

In Dindigul &
Ramnad there are two Kinds
of Cotton Cultivated, the Woo-
-purn and Naudan. In Ma-
-dura only the former. The
Naudan is considered the ~~st~~
strongest but as the Woopurn
is more in use, there is scarcely
any difference in the price. The
Naudan further is generally
sown with the dry grain &
yeilds once a year for 4 or 5
years. but it so impoverishes
the ground that it is not fit
for use for 6 or 7 years. or

until

until it has been very well manured ploughed and dug with Mamooties.—

5th. Is Bourbon Cotton Cultivated in the District? Does it grow as luxuriantly & is it as productive as Cotton indigenous of the Soil.—

The Bourbon Cotton is not Cultivated in these Districts nor is it even Known.—

6th. Is the Soil of the District generally calculated for the growth of Cotton—

The soil is not generally Calculated for Cotton the extent which might be cultivated is shewn in Statement A The Woopuon Cotton requires Karasal or black Muddy soil or Veppul or red Sandy Soil. The Naudan thrives better I believe in the Sandy soil adjacent to the sea.—

7th. What is the Rent of Land Capable of producing Cotton

It is according to the Description of Land

	Pf	C
Karasel 1st Sort pr Cawny	43	67
2d do	37.	47.
3d do	31.	26.
Kattaray 1st do	37.	47.
2d do	31.	26.
3d do	28	14½
Veppul 1st Sort	31.	26.
2d do	28.	14½
3d do	25	6
Poatul 1st Sort	28.	14½
2d do	25	5.
3d do	21	7½

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What is the aggregate expence of the Cultivation -

9th If the soil is favorable to the growth of Cotton & what is the best mode of encouraging and extending its Cultivation

It varies in most Villages but may be averaged from 2½ Pagodas to 3 Pagodas pr Cawney -

The best mode is to make advances to the Ryots and after the Cotton is gathered it must be recd. at the then selling price - this is the mode Merchants adopt they enter into engagements with the Inhabitants to supply them with certain Quantities of this Article for which they receive advances, at the time of gathering they give it to the Merchants at the Bazar Price - but if they are prevented from supplying the stipulated Quantity in consequence of a failure of Rain, or any unforeseen Circumstance, they pay the Balance in grain or let it

lay

lay over till the next year according to the engagements they may have entered into. If this mode be acceded to, it will cause a considerable increase.

10th Would the Ryots be willing to undertake the Cultivation of Bourbon or Tinnevelly Cotton on the following or on what Conditions.	The Bourbon Cotton is not known in these Districts and the Inhabitants do not appear at all inclined to Cultivate it.

A sample weighing 300 lbs. will be despatched to the Presidency in the course of tomorrow.

(Signed) A. Peter Collr.

Ramnad 23d Decr. 1812

To the President and Members of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Circular letter to Collectors dated the 18th December in which they are directed to discontinue the practice of drawing Tent Allowance in future, except in arrears, and on certain principles which have been laid down.

Your Board must be well aware of

of the necessity a Collector is under of always having his Establishment of Tents &c. ready as circumstances frequently occur, which oblige him to proceed to a distant part of his District without loss of time, and this, he will be prevented from doing, if his allowance is discontinued, excepting when he is actually on Circuit. –

In this part of the Country &c. Servants are not always to be met with, and even if they were, what reliance could be placed on them, when they are aware that they will be discharged, as soon as the business they are entertained for, has been completed – The whole of my Establishment therefore must be kept up throughout the year, or otherwise I should be obliged to desist from the practice, I have hitherto adopted of constantly moving about in Tents, and the Servants observing this would not have that fear of detection – should they be guilty of any faults – which I trust they have now – nor would the Inhabitants pay that attention to the Cultivation which they certainly at present do.

Besides

Besides, it is impossible for a Collector to ascertain the state of his District from written Communication so well as he could from personal inspection, and intercourse with the inhabitants. Moreover, many of the Ryots who have had Complaints to make have been saved the trouble of coming 50 or 60 Miles by waiting a short time, in the certainty of meeting the Collector on his tour, and have therefore not been taken away from their labour, but remain'd in their Villages cultivating until his arrival. —

Since January 1811. I have been almost continually in Tents, and the Expences which I have incurred have not been nearly equalled by the Tent Allowance. —

Of late, the seasons have proved so unfavorable, that the presence of the Collector has been constantly required in different parts of the District and if these Circuits had not been made, I have every reason to believe, that the extent of Cultivation would not have been nearly equal to even, to what it is, & has been. I trust therefore

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-force your Board will take these Circum-
-stances into your Consideration, and autho-
-rize my drawing Monthly the Tent Allow-
-ance as usual.

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

Madura
14th Feby. 1813

To the President and Members
of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Para 1st. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Secretary's letter directing me, to explain, the present State of the internal Communication in these Districts. to give a general account of what has been done of late years, of the expense incurred &c. &c.

2d. Through the Madura District, there is only one great road, of any Consequence. and that is, the one, which leads from Trichinopoly to Palamcottah.

3d. During the dry weather it is I believe as good as most roads. but during the Monsoon from its being intersected with numerous

Tanks

Tanks it is in many places bad. —

4th. To remedy this would certainly be a most desirable object, but the labour would be such, and the expence so great, that I am afraid Government would not be willing to incur it, because in this District there is only one large River, which is down so seldom for a length of time, that it has not been considered, hitherto necessary to Keep a Boat upon it, the expences therefore which would be incurred, must be incurred by Government, or from the excess of funds in other Districts, which I should think would be very inadequate, for the purpose. —

During the Management of Messrs. Hurdis & Parish, the roads were marked out, by trees being planted on each side, this has been, of great use particularly in preventing the Inhabitants, from ploughing parts of it, as they were wont to do, but nothing further appears to have been done. —

6th. To employ the Prisoners in so laborious a task (in this quarter at least.) I am convinced would be of little use, for whatever they may have completed during the dry season, would I am

sure

sure, be damaged, if not, wholly destroyed by the first rains - so that, they would only have to re-com-mence their labours & with this idea, I must state it, as my opinion, that if thus employed, their services will be of little advantage to the Public, but that if a certain number were sent to each Collector, their Services then, might be exerted for the benefit of Government, in repairing and dee-pening Tanks, and Watercourses. —

7th. In Dindigul, the internal Commu-nication is nearly the same, if any thing better as the Soil differs from that of Madura. — What I wish to draw your Boards attention to most, is the erection of Choultries & Bridges as they are most particularly required for the ac-commodation of Travellers. —

8th. Some of the former I endeavored to induce a few Natives to build offering as an encouragement, lands, as directed in your Secy's letter of the 14th November 1811. but they did not seem much inclined to take advantage of it if therefore any are erected, they must be erected by Government - If five or Six were only built

it

it would be a Comfort to the traveller, as in many a place, he has scarcely a roof to shelter himself from the inclemency of the weather — the expence would not be more, than from two to three thousand Pagodas, and some old Pensioners might be stationed to take care of them. —

9th. Near Coilpetty, there is a small tho' deep River, which from its being in the neighbourhood of Hills, frequently comes down and prevents the Tappal, and passengers for some hours from Crossing. —

10th. I have had it long in Contemplation to recommend that a bridge might be built across it and I now beg leave to forward an Estimate for that purpose, which I hope you will be pleased to sanction. —

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

Madura
14th Feb. 1813

To the President & Members
of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I take the liberty to solicit your Boards consideration of the Huzzoor Establishmt. of this District.

79 | 15 | 55

When Mr. Parish made the re=
=duction in this Department, he did it Confor=
=mably to the positive instructions, which he
received from your Board, and not from any
recommendation on his part, and as you limitted
the Establishment to a Certain Sum, he was
not only obliged to dismiss some Servants but
he was moreover necessitated to reduce the pay
of many of the others. —

This is a Circumstance to be
regretted exceedingly, as it has induced many
of the Old Servants, to solicit other employ
in which the emolument has been greater, and
these, in justice to their Claims and length of
Services could not be refused them (as they had
no chance whatever of promotion in the Huzzoory
so that some of the best Servants have in Con=
sequence left the Cutcharee, and the replacing
of them, has been attended, with considerable
difficulty — indeed the allowances are so very
limitted that I can scarcely ever procure
people of a good Age, and Respectable family
to

to fill the Vacancies which some times occur

Formerly, there was a Head Pedhcar or Sheristadar on a Salary of 80 Pagodas ₱r. Mensem but owing to your strict injunctions to decrease the Establishment, Mr. Parish was obliged to discharge him - and considerable inconvenience has been experienced in Consequence as he was a Man well acquainted with his business and a character very necessary for the good Management of a Cutcherry.

The very highest pay allowed to a Servant in this Office is 30 Pagodas, How inadequate this Salary is to procure a Clever respectable person who is well acquainted with the duties which he will be required to perform I shall leave your Board to determine & I trust if your decision is favorable that I shall be permitted to Nominate a Man in the Capacity of Head Sheristadar, on a Salary of 60 Pagodas ₱r. Mensem.

I should wish likewise to make a few other alterations in the Moyenzabitah those are in the pay of the Huzzoor Gomastahs by increasing

their

80 151

their Salaries as laid in the accompanying State-
-ment It will enable me to entertain men of
Respectability (which must be the wish of your
Board) and in whom reliance might be placed
& will moreover stimulate the lower Gomastahs
to exert themselves in the execution of their duties
in the hopes of succeeding to the higher situations
as they become vacant.

(Signed) R. Peter Collr.

Madura
February 1813.

To the President & Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

In conformity to the Instructions received from your Board, I proceeded to Ramnad & put the Young Zemindar in possession of his Country with all the forms usual on such occasions.—

On my directing the Minister to the late Ranee to deliver over the Ring and other emblems of authority he represented to me that as the young Zemindar had obtained possession of

of the Country by the Will of the Ranee so ought he agreeably to the 3d Para of the said Will to be continued in the Pirdawnship, or at all events receive the allowance attached to the situation as he conceived it was the intention of Government that the Will should be acted up to on every instance suggested therefore, that I would keep the Ring &ca until the orders of Government were received on the subject, upon this I desired him to represent the Circumstance to me in writing as I was obliged to leave Ramnad that night, which he has accordingly done, and a translation of his Arzee with the extract alluded to from the Will is now forwarded, and I request to receive your Instructions whether I am to deliver the ring &ca to the young Zemindar on his consenting to pay Teygarauy-pillay his allowance, or whether I am to insist on his continuing him in Office according to the Will of the Ranee Teygarajah-pillay and the young Zemindar have been on bad terms some time past, I have endeavored to reconcile them to each other, but without success.

Perriacolum
28th Feby 1813

(Signed) R. Pt...
Colr

To the President and Members
of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Secretary's letter of the 11th Instant.

In conformity to the orders recd from your Board, the Zemindar, was on the 21st of last Month put in exclusive possession of the Zemindary, as I had the honor of stating in my letter of the 28th. since which no interference whatever has taken place in the management of his Country. —

I had previously told Teyagarauz pillay that if he considered his Claims good, he should prosecute the Zemindar in Court, but he was unwilling to give up the ling &ca until his Claim had been decided upon, and therefore made that representation which I thought it my duty to forward to your Board. —

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

Dindighul
18th. March 1813

To the President & Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

As the fever still continues in these Districts, I have been requested by several Respectable Natives, to have the Ceremonies called Ustabundanom & Coombau-aubeshagom performed in the Meenatchee Pagoda.

The sum required for the performance of these Ceremonies will Amount to between ten and eleven thousand Chucks & as I think the Circar should contribute a Share I take the liberty of recommending that 2000 or even 3000 C. Chs. be given - the remainder will be subscribed by different Individuals.

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

Dindigul
9th April 1813

To the President and Members
of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Para 1st.

On the receipt of your Secretary's letter of the 12th March 1812 with its accompa-
-nyme

82 163

-niments - it was fully my intention, to have pro-
-ceeded without loss of time to Cumbum and
Goodaloor to endeavor to ascertain what was
considered the line of Boundary between the
Travancore, and Dindigul Countries, in order
that the much wished for termination might
be made, to the long pending dispute, as to
whom the Cardamom Hills belonged; but on
enquiry, I found the fever so dreadfully bad
that I saw no chance of my people escaping
the contagion, I therefore resolved to defer the
trip awhile, in the hopes of its abating and
this determination was strengthened by my
learning, that the Hills might be approached
in the Months of January, February & March
with less danger, than at any other period of
the year. -

2d. Accordingly, towards the latter
end of February, commenced my Journey, and
had reached Koottumpollam about 10 Miles from
Cumbum, when nearly the whole of my Servants

were

were seized with the endimic, I in consequence was obliged to halt, and as I was not far from the Villages of the people, whose depositions I was desirous of taking, I sent for them, and their testimony is laid down in the translates, now forwarded –

3d. The number of Depositions now transmitted is few, as the evidence of each person was nearly to the same purpose, or otherwise, I might have taken a load, which would only have caused your Board a laborious task to peruse, without giving greater information, than what is contained, in those now sent.

4th. To ascertain the exact limits of the most common disputed boundary is at all times difficult, more especially in such a case as the present, and tho' the Resident of Travancore seems satisfied that the range of Hills (as laid in the Map, which he forwarded) is the boundary between the two Countries, yet I must doubt it myself – I certainly have always heard, and always

considered

83 165

considered the Periar river to mark the limits and I trust, from what I am about to state it will appear, that I am not incorrect in my opinion. –

5th In the deposition of the Cumbum people, it will be seen, that they do not hesitate in asserting, that the Perkoo-periar divides the two Countries, and what strengthens their evidence and confirms me in the truth of it, is that the only frontier Choukey in this District is the Perkooperiar called so from the River, of that name and what has been established there, for a length of time, without meeting with the least opposition from the people of Travancore – now if this has been allowed, and no objection has been made to the levying of Duty at this place, it is not natural to conclude that they acknowledged, that to be the proper boundary of the two Countries.

6th From the evidence of the Tacvarom

and

and Bodeynaickenoor people. I have not been able to learn, what was supposed to be the Boundaries - they merely state that they were accustomed to pay a Tax to the Pooneat Rajah, but whether it was from his being Rajah of Goodaloor &ca. or whether it was from his being a Rajah of Travancore, they could not tell. —

7th There is a long story told of this Pooneat Rajah, who by the bye was a Prince of Madura, and Rajah of Cumbum &ca. and the point which requires the most attention, and on which I think the Question rests - is - whether the tribute paid, was on account of his being Rajah of the former place, or of the latter.

8th In my opinion certainly of the latter, because, when the Company took Charge of the Country, it would appear that the tax was only once demanded, and on being told, that it could not be given without the Company's orders, the Claim was not repeated, till several Years

after

after- nor even then, can it be said, that it was repeated, for an armed body come and forcibly gathered and carried away what Cardamoms it could, without ever consulting the wishes of its owners!!!

9th What right the Travancorians have to the Cardamoms, I cannot discover even when the Pooneat Rajah was at Cumbum, he only collected a very small tribute, and from time immemorial it will appear, by the evidences, that the Chitties residing at Cumbum, have been considered the rightful owners of the Gardens on the Hills- Besides, to each Garden, a certain number of inhabitants is attached to preserve them from the Wild Beasts &c. and these inhabitants are cloathed and maintained by these Chitties, who consider them as people dependant upon them, and when they dispose of their Gardens, as it seems they have a right, and have been accustomed to

Cps

do, the number allotted to each, goes with them

10th. In no one instance does it appear that the Travancorians made advances to the Hill inhabitants. All the Gardens which have been plundered belonged to the Ch... residing in the District, and not a fan... has been paid for what has been so forci... taken away.

11th. When the Gardens were few in number and the produce trifling, we heard nothing of this Claim of the Travancorians but since the Company have been at the Expence and trouble of improving and in=creasing the number, they come forward & lay their Claims in the hopes of deriving all the benefit from the management of the Circar

12th. I do therefore really think that the Perhooparian River marks the bounds of the two Countries. that the tribute paid to the Pooneat Rajah was owing to his being at the same time Rajah of Goodaloor, and that

as

85 163

as the Gardens in the Hills do belong to the Gardeners, and Chetties who reside at Cumbom &ca. they are and ought to be considered as attached to this District exclusively.

(Signed) R. Peter Collr.

Dindigul
5th April 1813

To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to forward a Register of Petitions. In this Register I have only entered those which have been presented on Stampt Paper.

It has hitherto, been usual to hear verbal Complaints and evidences, as they have been mostly of a trifling nature, I wish therefore to be informed, if it is the intention of your Board that all Petitions should be presented on Paper, and if on Paper, whether it is to be on Stampt Paper or not.

In most cases, I think, it might be

Dispense

dispensed with but in all, in which there was the least likelihood of a reference being made to Madras, it should be insisted on - and I would suggest, that no Petition be received at the Presidency, unless on Stampt Paper by which means, it can be ascertained from the endorsement of the Collector if such Petition had been previously presented to him, and his reasons for rejecting it - and such Petition having no such endorsement, should be thrown aside altogether -

(Signed) R Peter
Collr.

Dindigul
12th. April 1813

To the President and Members
of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to forward a Statement of the rates of Duty on Beetle &ca. proposed to be levied at the different Villages and places therein named.

In this Statement I have merely

entered

entered in addition to what was paid before the 5 pr. Cent duty proposing the former Duty to be collected as the Tax - and as there is so trifling a difference between what is denominated the 1st & 2d. Sort of Tobacco, I have made no difference in the Tax on that Article as I conceive if any difference was to be made it would give great Room for imposition. —

For Gunjah, Bang, and Goodack, no Duty has been fixed, as no Articles of the Kind, have ever, I believe been brought into this District so that I must therefore beg to leave to request that your Board will determine what ought to be levied should any be hereafter imported. —

From the numbers of people who sell Beetle, I am confident that large Quantities must be smuggled - let the Choukey Servants be ever so vigilant - I think therefore, if this Article could be Rented out Monthly Considerable increase in Revenue would be

the

the consequence - The parties thus renting it should not be allowed to raise the price of it at pleasure, but should sell it at the diff-rent rates laid down in the Statement w[hich] includes the customary gain to each retai[ler]

(Signed) R. Peter

Col[lector]

Dindigul 12th April 1813

To the President & Members of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to forward

No. 1. Statement of Salt Servants confined in th[e] jail of Madura.

A considerable time ago, I insti-tuted an enquiry into the conduct of the Sa[lt] Servants, but owing to various causes, and latterly to the Sickness of my Assistant, I was unable to conclude it till very lately.

In the Statement now trans-mitted, is shewn the Amount, which has been proved against some, and for which

they

they have been confined. —

Since their imprisonment I have distrained as much of their property as I could meet with but as the Amount realized is so very trifling, and as I cannot discover more of their Property, and having sold all that belonged to their Securities, I would recommend that they now be released, as the sum Paid Monthly for their Batta is considerable, and will shortly amount to more than what has been actually realized from the Sale of their Effects. —

That the people have more property, I do not the least doubt, but your Board, must be well aware, how difficult it is to ascertain at times, what is really theirs, and must well Know, how little a Native regards himself, when he is assured, that his relations are provided for and as long as he is maintained in prison, so long will he remain without regretting much his confinement.

I cannot refrain from lamenting

the

the deficiency of the Regulations in regard to the punishment of this Class of Servants as well as the Sayer. What native is there, who would not risk detection, when he knows, that even if he is discovered in his frauds, the utmost punishment, which can be inflicted on him, is to pay the Amount which may be proved against him (and he takes excellent care, that the proofs against him shall be few and difficult to obtain) and if he does not, immediately pay the Amount against him, he is imprisoned till the sum is liquidated, and is maintained all the while at the expence of the Circar. that is, if his property is not sufficient to Answer all demands.—

Of the necessity of some strict Regulation being passed for the punishment of these people, I have been long convinced, but more particularly so, during my late residence at Ramnad. Whilst there, I detected the Servants at several of the Pans, taking the money

which

88 175

which they had actually realized from the sales of Salt. All that I could do, was to send them to prison, and I am now recovering as much as I possibly can.—

That this branch of Revenue is more open to fraud than any other, experience has shewn, and tho' to check it entirely is perhaps almost impossible, all that can be done, is to prevent it to the utmost, by the means we may have in our power.—

I have therefore of late forwarded to Mr. Garrow, Collector of Coimbatoor, and other Collectors, Registers of Rawanahs issued for their respective Districts, and I think if a Monthly Register of Rawanahs issued both on Account of Salt and Sayer were transmitted to Collectors it would tend greatly to intimidate the Serv[ants] as by transmitting these Registers, Collectors would be acquainted with the Villages and Towns, for which Rawanahs had been granted and by giving strict injunctions to their Servants the whole might be recovered and return[ed]

to

to the Office from whence they had been issued and as I have reason to suspect, that of late the Merchants and Servants form some arrangements in which it has been settled that the Rawanahs should not be given up, but destroyed or in which Merchants retain the Rawanahs, return to the Pans and receive a second supply of Salt for the same Rawanah - I would recommend that in every case, in which a Merchant may be detected in selling illicit Salt, the Salt only should not be seized, but the Bullocks &ca conveying the same should be seized and sold as I believe is usual at Home, as it is only by making the Merchant himself suffer, I conceive that any complete check can be put to the Malpractices of the Servants. -

An instance of this kind I have just now detected. -

In the Sayer another mode might be adopted. viz.t that of restoring to the Mer=chants the duty paid by them, for their Rawa=nahs - this should be done wherever they pre=

=sented

89 177

-sented them, and the sum thus returned would be a small object to Government and would most likely be considerably coun-terbalanced by the increase in the receipts.

Formerly a sum was allowed for the erection of Godowns, but it was very inadequate for the purpose. A few were built, but as the expences were so limitted they were of such a nature as soon to fall to ruin. I now beg leave to forward an Estimate for the erection of others. Amounting

No. 2 to Star Pagodas 4556. 12. ..

I also forward a Statement of Revenue Defaulters, and shall reply to your Secretary's letter regarding Alla-mail Chitty as soon as some Accounts are ready.

(Signed) R. Peter Collr.

Dindigul ...
13th April 1813.

To the President & Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Secretary's letter of 19th. Ult. with the 500 Rawanahs, which accompanied it.

In 1808. 400 Rawanahs, were forwarded by your Secretary since which time no more have been applied for - under the supposition, that the common Mausee Rawanahs would answer, for Salt, as well as other goods, & with this idea they have been used, until my late application for the regular Salt Rawanahs.

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

Dindigul 4th. May 1813.

To the President & Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Para 1st. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Secretary's Communication of the 8th. March last.

2d. My letter of the 5th. Ultimo will have

90 179

have made your Board acquainted with the
causes of the delay, which took place, regard-
the investigation into the dispute of the Car-
=damom Hills, and the reasons there stated
will I trust, have been deemed satisfactory
Few people perhaps, are aware of the dang-
at this present time, of moving even from
one station to another, in these Districts
A person coming from Madura, for insta-
to Dindigul, and remaining a few days only
is almost certain of getting the fever, and so
is a person, going from Dindigul to Madur-

3.d Several times previous to my pro=
=ceeding to make the enquiry, I received re-
=presentations, accompanied with many De-
=positions from the Cardamom Renter, who wa-
then in the Hills regarding the conduct of th-
Travancorians, in taking the produce of the
Gardens, but as I was so soon to proceed th-
I did not think it worth while troubling
your Board, with complaints, but merely Di=

recte-

-rected him to collect what Cardamoms he could without Quarrels, until a termination was put to the dispute.—

4th. The conduct of the Travancorians towards my people, with all the Circumstances which occurred, while the Head Tahsildar of Dindigul was in the Hills, as detailed

Vide No. 1.2 & 3- in his Statement and those of the Hoozoor Peons, which I now forward.—

5th. In Fusly 1217 Allamail Chetty took the Rent of the Cardamom Hills for three years Viz.

Fusly	1217	8000 C. Chs.
"	1218	9000 Do.
"	1219	10,000 Do.

6th. In the latter end of 1808 or in the middle of Fusly 1218 there was a Balance against him of 4,000 C. Chs. for Fusly 1217 & as he appeared to wish, to evade the fulfilmt. of his Contract, under the pretence, that the Travancorians had plundered the Gardens, tho it was well Known, that he had collected a Quantity of Cardamoms; the Hills were assumed

in

91 181

in December 1808. & the Amount collected during

vide Statemt. A Enclosures 4 & 6.

that year, & the following, is shewn in Statemt. A

7th In 1219 the cause of the produce of the Hills falling so far short of former years was owing entirely to the immense Quantities of Rain which fell and destroyed the greater part of the Crops, which torrents had not fallen for years before.

8th It is difficult now, and indeed must have been so, at any time, to ascertain the exact amount of Cardamoms plundered by the Travancorians - The Renters Claim for 22,400 Chuckrums on that account, is too ridiculous to be listened to - he acknowledges having collected 1402 Tolams of Cardamoms, and the greatest Quantity ever known to have been previously gathered in one year was about 1500 - Now, if he gathered 1402 Tolams and claims 22400 Chuckms., as losses sustained - estimating a Tolam at 9 Cully Chs. which I believe, about the average price

In the Petition presented to Mr. Long he claims 22400 in that presented to Mr. Andrews 20164.

or

or even say 10 Chs. there must have been taken by the people of Travancore 2,240 Tolams, making a Total of Cardamoms for one year 3,642 Tolams a Quantity never Known to have been produced on these Hills in one Season. if he means by to express by Articles, (the different products of the Hills) his claim is still weaker as Cardamoms are the most valuable Articles grown. the others such as Turmeric &c. bring comparatively, to a small Amount.

9th. The Renter in his first Petition, only laid claim, for 600 Chuckms. this sum has been deducted as directed, Why he claimed so large a sum afterwards, &c unless with the hopes of imposing, I am at a loss to conjecture. –

10th. The whole of his losses by the Travancorians, may be estimated at 4 or 500 Tolams, and by the rains 6 or 700 – Tolams, the value of which, could be at

9 Chuckrums Pr. Tolam	C Chs 10,800	.. ..
Deduct Gardeners Share at 4 Chs. Pr. Tolam	4800	..
Balance in favor of the Renter	6000	..

it

92/183 F

it remains therefore with your Board to deci[de]
what deductions shall be made, I know not,
what to recommend myself, as I have some
suspicion, that he has not acted with tha[t]
honesty, which he ought to have done —
The Rent given by him, was higher than [in]
former years, but the Gardens had in-
-creased, and it was at his own Risk, — he
might have gained, and it would have
been to his own advantage, now he has
lost, it should be to his own cost, except
indeed, allowances be made, for what
has been plundered, by the Travancore
people, which he could not prevent. & even
then according to his agreement, he is not
entitled to remission, as he expressly promise[d]
in his proposal, to discharge the Amount
Rent without assigning any excuse whatev[er]
and for the performance of which he gives
good security. —

11th

11th. With regard to Coopyen, he was Renter of these Hills in Fusly 1215, he took the Rent for Star Pagodas 4333 .. 14 .. of this, he discharged Star Pagˢ. 3292 .. 14 .. leaving a Balance of Star Pagˢ. 1041. .. .. against him,

Vide No. 7. when he absconded, and Mr. Parish could hear nothing of him, for a long time, till he was at last discovered, lurking about Madura, in a religious Character, and was apprehended and sent to Jail. —

12th. I have not yet been able to ascertain, if his claim on the Zemindar of Cornbay be just - he is now with me prosecuting his demands, which I shall investigate, and terminate, at as early a period as possible. —

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

Dindigul 10th. May 1813.

To the President & Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I had received frequent representations from both the Amans & Zemindars

of

92485 R

Dindigul, of the Mischief the Elephants did, every year, and requesting fire Arms to destroy them - but I had no conception of the Extent of their depredations, until within these few Weeks -

On my late trip to Woottum-pollam &c.a I examined many places, which these Animals had just retired from and found the Quantities of grain, destroyed by them very considerable indeed - whole Paddy fields, were frequently laid waste in one Night - within a very short distance of my Tents, and while at Perreacolum one Man lost his life, in endeavoring to protect his Grain - I think some Weapons of defence fr should be allowed for the protection and I therefore beg leave to enclose, an indent for Muskets &c.a which I hope you will approve of and will forward to Government for Sanction - Should my indent be complied with it is my intention to Keep the Muskets &c.a,

at

at the Huzzoor-Kutcherry, and give them out only at the times the Elephants are along the Hills, when they return, the Arms will be returned and taken care of until they are required again.—

(Signed) R. Peter
Colr.

Dindigul 18th. May 1813.

To Captain Henry Harvey
Assist. Commissary General
Seringapatnam

Sir,

I beg leave to forward, an Acct. of things furnished to His Majesty's 80th. Regiment, which your Conicopoly, has thought proper not to discharge.—

In passing thro' this District with the exception of one or two Stages, he has not I believe, paid for a single Article, and the reason why he has not, is owing to my people refusing to receiving a Pagoda for seven Sheep, which he offered.—

When he reached Madura, he addressed a Letter to me requesting that I would

send

send my Ameen to that place to receive the Amount due for the things which he had furnished - and complaining that the Detachment had not been well supplied at two Stages. -

My sending the Ameen, 50 Miles to receive money, which ought to have been paid on the Spot, was totally out of the Question as he had much more important duties to attend to, & with regard to his Complaint of the Regiment not being properly supplied after the strictest enquiries at each stage, I must say, that I cannot discover the least grounds for it - for there appears to me to have been sufficient for double the number of Men

In one of the receipts now transmitted 83 Dogs Sheep are entered - I have ascertained most satisfactorily from my people who accompanied the Regiment, that the Sheep furnished at Toddycumboo were the

finest

finest and fattest the Soldiers had received in this District, and I am fully convinced that his (Appoopillay's) Conduct has been occasion'd by my people refusing to give the Sheep, at his own price –

Dindigul 28th May 1813 (Signed) R. Peter

To the President & Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Para 1st. I have the honor to acknow=ledge the receipt of your Secretary's letter of the 11th of March –

2d. Had I been aware, that it was the wish of your Board, that the Decennial & finally Permanent Settlement, should be in=troduced immediately into these Districts; I certainly should have addressed you at a much earlier period, on a subject of so much interest and importance, but the impression on my mind, was, that you were not desir=ous that the Decennial Lease, should be

post

just now concluded in these Provinces, owing
to the vast losses, which they had sustained
in Inhabitants &ca and with this Idea,
I was induced to address your Board in
December last, requesting permission to re-lease
the Lands of Dindigul, as I was anxious
to improve the Districts under my Charge
to the utmost, and to render the discharge
of the Kists due by the inhabitants to Government
as regular, and as easy as possible, until
they arrived at a state, which would admit
of the introduction of the permanent Assessment
at once - I was not aware, at that time, that
your Board were willing to make an abate-
-ment for many years, below, what might be
ultimately fixed as the Standard Rent, but,
as I am now allowed to make such abate-
-ment, and for such a length of time as may
be found necessary, in the first years of the Lease,
every objection is obviated, and such a Settlemt.
as

as the one desired by your Board, I conceive, can be made with equal facility and advantage.

Dindigul. 3.d Before I commence to state my sentiments, as to what should be the Standard Amount of Revenue fixed for this District, I must take the liberty of once more, recalling to your recollection, the great Ravages the fever has made, and how greatly the Country, has been depopulated, by so dreadful an Endemic as has been raging here, with so much violence for the last four Years, and carrying off, not less certainly, than one third of its population. Time alone therefore can restore it to its former state, Those who are now Children, must be allowed to attain the Age of Manhood, or at least, an Age which will admit of their performing the labours of Husbandry, before a permanent Rent can be expected to be realized.

4.th Under these considerations, therefore, I have in the present Decennial Rent proposed for the first 8 Years, such sums as I think

95 191 F

think the inhabitants can pay with ease to
themselves, proposing rather that the Amount
fixed, should be under-rated than over, and
that they should gain, instead of lose in the fi
years - for, by enabling the Husbandman to
increase his Stock at the early part of the Lea
it will be enabling him to increase his Culti-
-vation in an equal proportion which will
ensure to Government what may Ultimately
be fixed in permanency. -

5th. A Rent introduced on such libe-
-ral grounds as those now proposed, by your
Board, cannot fail of success; and by allowing
the principal Cultivators, to become participa
in it, and making the whole village respon-
-sible for the Rent, are measures which must
ensure the dues of Government, if any possibly
could. for it will be the interest of all parties
to watch the state of the Village, to enter into
Engagements with the lower & poorer Classes

of people, for the Cultivation of their lands, & to assist them on such occasions, as they may require it.

6th. The causes of the failure of the Permanent System introduced by Mr. Hurdis, have already been so fully detailed by my Predecessor, that I trust, a repetition of them, will not be deemed necessary. I shall therefore proceed to point out, what in my opinion should be fixed as the Shist, or standard Rent of this Province.

7th. In the Statement, which I have now the honor to forward, is laid down the Actual Collections, since the assumption of the Country, by the Company, to the end of Fusly 1221. together with the Amount Settlement, which were made and shewing the Balances at present outstanding on those Settlements.

Vide Statemt. A.

8th. For the present, as already stated it will be impossible for the inhabitants to pay what may be fixed, as the Standard Rent

Since

46 193 1

Since the fever commenced, the falling off, of the Rent, has been very considerable. - In fusly 1219. the Amount actually Collected was S. P.s 77,496. 36. 57. In fusly 1220 Star Pagodas 53,112. 7. .. 16. making a difference between the two fuslies 24,384. 29. 41. In fusly 1221. Star Pagodas 43,612. 37. 23. making a still greater difference than in the former year, and this year it is estimated at 53,130 39. 6. I therefore propose, that this year, the Rent shall be given agreeably to the actual Cultivation, next year at 55,300. the third for 56,900 .. .. the fourth for 58300 the fifth for 60,000 the sixth for 62,000. the seventh for 63,000. the eighth 64,000 and the ninth for 65,953. 37. 16. which I wish to fix as the shist, or Standard Rent.

9.th To attempt to introduce the permanent Rent, at an earlier period, would I conceive be useless, for there really are not inhabitants sufficient to cultivate Land to a much higher

Amou

Amount than what I have now proposed, if therefore it was attempted, I am convinced, that to discharge the Amount, the Inhabitants &c would be obliged to part with every thing and would in consequence be requiring constant & advances - and that system which it appears to be the wish of your Board should be intro=duced, would be completely upset - I am there=fore extremely anxious to receive your Sanction for the Rent as now submitted

10th By the Minutes of your Board, it appears intended, that the Shist or Standard Rent, shall be fixed on an Average of seven years Actual Collections that is I conclude according to the actual Collections of each Village. On this principle, therefore, I have taken the diffe=rent averages, of the different years, and the one which I conceive best suited and which the inhabitants will be able to discharge with

Vide Statement B.

regularity

97 195

regularity, and ease to themselves, is that f

Fusly 1214 to 1220. —

11th Had the seven last years, Actual

Collections been taken, the average would

Vide Col. 2. have been S. Ps. 63,567. 23. 38. a sum I

think rather too low, as the decrease in the

last two years, has been occasioned by a Ma

which may perhaps, never visit these Terri

-ries again - at least to so alarming an exten

as it has done. and though it has not at thi

period, quite abated, yet the number of death

is comparatively few, to what it was two year

ago, and we may reasonably hope, I trust th

the destruction occasioned by it, will daily

decrease, and very shortly cease altogether. —

12th If the two last years. vizt. Fuslies

1220 & 1221 be struck off, and the average of

Col. 3. seven preceding, be taken it will be 70,491. 16. 4 Ps.

a sum too large again, to be fixed in permanen

For

for to my Knowledge, the inhabitants were obliged to part with almost every thing they possessed, to pay, even what was realized, in those years — I would therefore include one of the bad years fusly 1220, which with the six preceding, forms

Vide Col. 4 — the Average of 65953 sp. 37 f. 16 c. — If the Average of the seven years previous, that is, from fusly

Vide Col. 5 — 1207 to 1213 be taken, it will be 66,205 sp. 20 f. 62 c. If of four good, and three bad, it will be sp.

Vide Col. 6. — 64,455. 21. 59. or if, an average of both these last is taken, it will be 65,330 sp. 21 f. 21 c. I think therefore on a fair consideration of every circumstance, the average of the seven years, commencing with fusly 1214 and ending with fusly 1220 is as fair a one, as can be taken, and which, I beg leave to recommend, as the Shist or Standard Rent of the 29 Estates — forming a Decrease on the Amount fixed by Mr. Hurdis of Star P.s 9,219. 4. 54. —

The average Collections since the Assumption of the Country from fusly 1206 to fusly 1221. is 63,346. 21. 39.

13th. It will be here necessary to remark that in fuslies 14. 15. & 16. the Estates were in p... sion

98 197

possession of the Mittadars. In fusly 1214 accord
to the Accounts of the Curnoms of the Villages
the Actual Cultivation was only to the extent
of 60,316. 43. 33. but the Mittadars borrowed
and paid above 4,000 Pag.s more than the Col-
-lections in the next years fuslees 1215. & 1216. tho'
they collected 128,663. 8.. they paid only into the
Treasury 111943. 25. 15. appropriated to them-
-selves, and perhaps to the discharge of debts
contracted in the former years, Sibbendy &ca
no less a sum than 16719. 27. 65. I have therefo
not been guided by the sums actually discharged
by the Mittadars, but have taken the Average
of the Actual Collections for these years, accord
to the Village Accounts of Cultivation &ca Had
I adopted the former plan it would have
occasioned much confusion and labour to
ascertain the Amount each Village would have
to pay, but by adopting the latter mode of
procedure the average is easily made, and the
Sheet

Shist or Standard Rent fixed, without any diffi-
-culty or a chance of any one Village being over-
assessed. —

14th. The accompanying Muchelkah and Puttyom, now forwarded for your perusal, I have made as short as possible, conceiving, if they were drawn out to any length, they would only tend to puzzle and confound the Renters. Should any additions or alterations be required May I request the favor of your Board to make them, and as the season is far advanced and my Cutcherry Servants, are liable to con-stant attacks of fever, I should conceive myself greatly obliged, by receiving your Boards instructions at as early a period as the importance of the subject will admit of.

Madura 15th. With regard to Madura, I beg leave to request your indulgence to defer the Settlement of this District, till the ensuing year, partly on Account of the advanced stage of

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of the year, but principally on Account of the fever, which has been very bad, for the last few Months - indeed, I am convinced, that I should experience great difficulty, in introdu=cing a Rent for such a length of time, as the one now proposed, at this present moment, owing to the dread the Inhabitants would be under, of being unable to fulfil the engagements which they might enter into, with the Circar - Should your Board therefore be pleased to grant my request, I shall take an early opportunity of stating my Sentiments, as to what should be the Standard Rent of this District - I am more earnest in my Solicita=tions, that this indulgence should be granted, as no possible loss can be occasioned by it.

Dindigul 25th May 1813. (Signed) R. Peter Collr.

To the Assistant Commissary General at Seringapatam

Sir,

I have been favored with your Letter of the 4th Instant - and as Appospillay

does not belong to my department it will be im-
-possible for me, to punish him - but as he is
attached to yours, I would suggest - should you
be of the same opinion - that he be fined and ad-
-monished - which I dare say would be quite
sufficient to deter him from acting in a similar
manner on any other occasions. —

Sholavundan 15th June 1813 (Signed) R. Peter Collr.

To the President & Members
of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Para. 1. I have the honor to acknowledge
the receipt of your Secretary's letter of the 6th.
Ultimo, with its enclosure. —

From the deposition of the parties, in charge
of the Mosque, it appears, that altho' they had the
complete management of it from its first establish-
-ment, and that Meer Mahomed had never visited
it, or the tomb of his Mother, until within these
two years, yet when he did come, they did not
hesitate to acknowledge him, as their Master, and

moreover

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moreover to give a Kararnamah (translate of which is inclosed) promising to receive such Salaries as he should fix.— I therefore see no objection whatever to the petition of Meer Mahomed being granted.—

(Signed) R Peter Collr.

Madura 21st. June 1813.—

To the President & Members
of the
Board of Trade

Gentlemen,

Owing to some incorrectness on the part of the Choukeydar of Terkoopiriaur I have been unable to forward the accompanying Statement until this date.—

Travancore. Tho' the imports in this year fall short of last year, yet the deficiency is considerably Counterbalanced, by the increase in the exports.— The cause stated for the decrease in the imports is owing to the failure of some Contract with the Travancore Government.— but I think, it is partly

owing

owing to the Markets, having been already over stocked with the boiled Nuts which is the Chief Article of import to this Country. —

The white piece goods exported to Travancore are those called Kucha Cloths, much in use with the Travancoreans. there is no particular cause stated for the increase in this year it must therefore be attributed to the demand for them being greater than usual. —

(Signed) R. Peter Colr.

Madura 21st. June 1813

To the President & Members of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

During the last Monsoon, people suffered considerably in the fort and neighbourhood of Madura, from want of Salt, as owing to the rains, the Merchants were unable to bring the regular supply to the Market. I think therefore, if a quantity was kept in Deposite, by the Circar, would be of great service to the

the Inhabitants. -

2d. The Establishment required to dispo[se]
of the Salt, would consist of one Conicopoly a[t]
2 Pagodas p[er] Mensem; one measuring Man [1]
Pagoda and one Peon 1 Pagoda.

Madura 23d. June 1813 } (Signed) R. Peter Coll[ecto]r

To the President & Members
of the Board of Reven[ue]

Gentlemen,

I am happy to inform your Bo[ard]
that the Season in Madura, thus far, has bee[n]
more favorable than any for many years past;
- In Dindigul, it has not been quite so good,
yet it has been far from being bad - at least,
the next Accounts I receive from the Amu[ldars]
will be as favorable, as I could wish. -

Madura 26th. June 1813. (Signed) R. Peter Coll[ecto]r

To the Assistant Commissary General
Seringapatam

Sir,

I was favored with your letter stati[ng]

days ago, and tho' I was convinced from the pre=
=vious investigation that the Complaints which
I had made of Appoopillay were groundless, yet
as it appeared to be your wish, I proceeded
to make a further enquiry into them which has
only tended to strengthen my conviction of their
being without any foundation whatever. –

When Appoo-pillay was asked
by me why he did not pay for the different articles
which were furnished to His Majesties 80th Regt. he said
that the people never brought them their Accounts
and never once complained of his having been
charged too much for them – I then questioned
my Servants who were present why the Accounts
had not been given to him and they all declared
that Appoopillay wanted 6 and 7 Sheep for a Pagoda
instead for 4 (which is the usual number) and
that they therefore had refused the Money &
only taken his receipt – I intended to have for=
=warded some other Complaints against Appoopillay
but

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but as he appears to have settled them, I shall say no more about them, but only request that you will be so good, as to caution him as to his future conduct, if the supplies are not paid for, it will be impossible for me to furnish them. —

I have directed your people to return to you — & have the honor to remain

(Signed) R. Peter Coll

Nellore 3rd July 1813.

To the President & Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Secretary's letter of 29th Ultimo with its enclosures. —

As the Sea Customs &ca are exclusively, under the management of the Commercial Resident of Ramnad — I beg leave to suggest that instructions be sent to that Officer to make the necessary Arrangements, for the

Dence

Doraies passing without suffering delay.

(Signed) R. Peter Collr

Madura 9th Augt. 1813

To the President & Members of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Para 1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Secretary's letter of 2d. Instant.

2d. In Dindigul agreeably to the orders of your Board I had made arrangements for a ten years Lease, and the Inhabitants had with very few exception consented to take it for that term of years - but I delayed concluding it finally till I had received your Sentiments on the Subject of my letter of 25th. May last.

3d. As I had explained to the Inhabitants, the intentions of Government and prepared them to receive a Decennial Rent

I

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I must strongly recommend that it be conclude[d]
in this Province, as it might otherwise tend
to occasion distrust on the part of the Inhabi-
-tants as to the future measures of Government

4th. In this District the Lease I am
convinced will answer well - if it is not
introduced, some reduction & considerable redu-
-tions in the Assessment of the Lands must
be made - as they are as I formerly stated t[o]
much too highly assessed for any Country to
prosper under it - besides by giving the Rent
at the moderate Rate proposed by me - The in-
-habitants will I trust be enabled to dischar[ge]
their Kists in any commonly favorable Season
with ease to themselves and it will afford the[m]
time gradually to recover from the Calamities
they have suffered which have been as great
I believe, if not greater, than any under the
Companys Government. -

5th.

5th In Madura I merely gave the

Rent on the Actual Cultivation of the year &

shall be able, I have not the smallest doubt

to carry into execution without much difficulty

any orders that I may receive from your Board

as to its future Settlement—

(Signed) R. Peter Collr.

Madura 23d Augt. 1813

To the President & Members of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

What has been, hitherto, and is at present used as a Kutcheree at this Station, is an Old building, formerly belonging to some of the Rajahs — but is now, in so very ruinous a State, that to repair it, would cost nearly as much, as erecting a new one at once — and as it is in the Fort, and most inconveniently situated for the Inhabitants, and wanting rooms to Deposit records &ca. I would recommend to the

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the latter, and have therefore the honor to for-
-ward an Estimate for that purpose which I
hope will meet with your Sanction

(Signed) R. Peter Collr.

Madura 27th Augt. 1813

To the President & Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Para 1st. I have the honor to forward a Jum-
-mah and Kistbundy of the whole of the Dis-
under my Charge for Fusly 1222. —

2d. Tho' the commencement of the Seaso[n]
of last year was more unfavorable than that
of the preceding, as I have already at differen[t]
times informed your Board, yet I am happy to
state, that there has been no falling off in the
Revenue - the total Amount of last Fusly con-
-derably exceeding that of the former Fusly. —

indigul - 3d. In this Province I had prep[ared]
the Inhabitants for a Decennial Lease, but as I
Recd. your Boards subsequent orders, to give the Ten[ants]

on

on the Actual Cultivation of the year - that Amount only is entered in the Statements now forwarded.

4th. In this year the Settlement is Star

Vide Statements B & C. Pagodas 54,112. 35. 8. making an Increase on the preceding of 10,499. 42. 65.

5th. In Statement D is the Summah & Kistbundy of the Six Estates in possession of Ze-:mindars, Amounting to Star Pagodas 17,844. 25. 70. forming a total of the 35 Estates of Star Pags. 71,957. 15. 78. -

Madura. 6th. In Madura, the Increase of Revenue has not been so great, which has been owing to a failure of the rains in three Talooks - Terumboor, Mellore and Nuttom - In these three Divisions dry grain is almost exclusively Cultivated, so that, if there are no showers in the early part of the Season (which was the case in the last) the falling off in the Cultivation must be more considerable in these than in any of the other Talooks - The

Vide Statement E & F. Settlement however Amounts to Star Pagodas 87,065. 4. 34 making an Increase on that of the preceding year,

605 211

year of Star Pagodas 3,111. 31. 56.

7th In Statement G is a Detailed of Summah and Kistbundy of the whole of the Pollams Amounting to Star Pagodas 258,993. 7. 76.

8th In H is the Summah and Kistbundy of the Cardamom Hills, Amounting to Star Pags 4,303. 1. 29. —

9th As the Rent of these Hills expired with Fusly 1222. I request to be favored with your early instructions, as to, whether the Cardamom Hills are to be considered as attached to Dindigul or Travancore, as an early Decision on the subject would prevent any disputes occurring in future. —

10th I is the Summah and Kistbundy of the Palaney Hills and J of the whole of the Hills for the year 1222. —

11th In Statement K & L. are shewn the Gross Collections of Salt & Sayer, which I am happy to say considerable exceed those of any

former

former years, the total Amount being Star Pag
60,416. 22. 6. exceeding last fusly by S. P.s 9768. 2

12th. Exclusively of the above, Tobacco, to some Amount has been taken from the Dis-tricts by the Collectors of Coimbatoor and Trichi-poly, the duty on which Amounts to Star Pag 1607. 32. 20. –

13th. In Statement **M** is shewn the Amt. of Arrack and Toddy Farms Rented, forming an Increase on fusly 1221 of Star Pagodas 150. 6. 3

14th. **N** is a Statement of Stampt Paper Sold, Amounting to Star Pagodas 2373. 16. 74

15th. O is a General Abstract Statem of Summah of the Districts of Madura Din-digul and Ramnad Amounting to Star Pagˢ 4,94,732. 35. 72 making an Increase on the Settlement of the preceding year of Star Pagoda 24,065. 14. 10. which under all circumstances will I trust prove satisfactory. –

16th

106 2#213

16th. I cannot conclude this short Report without bringing to your Boards notice the ready Assistance I have at all times received from Mr. Harrison who has proved himself on all occasions a useful Assistant

Madura
7th Septr. 1813.

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

To the President & Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Para 1st. Agreeably to the instructions contained in your Secretary's letter of 18th Decr. 1812. I have the honor to report, the Extra duty performed the extent of Tour made and period of my residence in tents since 1st January 1813 up to which time I had drawn Tent Allowance then permitted. –

2d. In the Month of January, I returned to Madura from Ramnad, at which place, I had been to look after the Salt Servants. About

the

the 20th of February I started for Woottumpollam and Cumbum to enquire into the Cardamom dispute, from whence, about the middle of March, I went to Dindigul and the different Divisions in that Province to prepare the inhabitants for a Decennial Rent. After which in the beginning of June I proceeded to Sholavundan to conclude the Settlement of that Division, from whence I went to Mellore, and finally returned to Madura on the 3d of August. In this tour, I enquired into the Cardamom dispute prepared every thing for a Decennial Lease in Dindigul, and completed a one years Settlement of the Madura District. I likewise heard Complaints, examined Tanks, Annals &ca which required repair and latterly the state of Cultivation in different Villages, I hope therefore to receive your Authority for drawing Tent Allowance from 1st January to 12th July 1813.

3d. Mr. Harrison joined me in the beginning of May at Dindigul, since which period

period he has accompanied me and assisted me in forming the Settlement, and on all occasions when required —

(Signed) R Peter Colr.

Madura 9th Septr. 1813

To the President & Members of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Para 1st. I have the honor to forward Estimates of Moyenzabitahs and other Charges for Fusly 1223 for the Districts under my Charge. —

2d. In the Huzzoor Establishment, it was my wish to have dispensed with an Assistant Sheristadar, but I find his services so much required, that I must entreat your permission to continue him — In the Moyen-zabitahs of Dindigul and the Madura Talooks I have made no alterations —

3d. In the Salt Department, formerly, there

there were a Nwesindah and Sumperdy to each Pan – these people were appointed, in the hopes that they would be a check upon each other – these hopes however have failed as I have invariably found that they coalesced, and that the Embezzlements in consequence were much greater – I therefore dismissed the former Class of people, and retained the latter, with an additional number of Peons at each Pan which arrangement has completely answered my expectation. –

4th. To improve this branch of Revenue has been my constant wish, and with what success this has been attempted the Amount Collected last fusly will I trust evince – The present Moyenzabitah is 254 . . making a decrease of Star Pagodas 12 . . . . Mr. Meason

5th. In the Sayer Department I have incorporated several Choukies in one, merely keeping a Gomastah and a Peon or two at each of the Old Stations – This I have found to necessary,

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necessary, as these places are on the high road, &
if some person was not there to levy Duty
the Merchants, by travelling these roads would
evade paying of duty by avoiding the Choukey
Stations. I have likewise added several Gomas-
-tahs to several of the Choukies, this I have
done, to collect duties at large Villages in the
neighbourhood of the Choukies - as I thought
it useless to be at the expense of Establishing
a regular Choukey where a Gomastah would
be sufficient to answer every purpose - I trust
therefore that the Establishment now submitted
will be sanctioned -

(Signed) R. Peter Collr.

Madura -
12th. Septr. 1813

To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Since, I had the honor of forward-
-ing the Accounts of Cultivation, I am happy to
state, that there has been a pretty general and consi-

Derable

-derable fall of Rain, throughout the District which has relieved me from the apprehension I was under of the greater part of the Crops perishing from the want of water. —

(Signed) R. Peter Colr.

Dindigul 17th Octr. 1813.

To the President & Members of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Para 1st. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Secretary's letter of 10th Ultimo, authorizing me, to draw Tent Allowance, for nine Months in fusly 1222. —

From the circumstance, of my being only allowed to draw nine Months Allowance, I presume, that I should have stated, from the commencement of the fusly, the length of time I had been in Tents and on tour, and not, from the time, I received your instructions, as to the mode in which that Allowance was to be drawn in future. I therefore, beg leave to state, to your Board, that, at the commencement of fusly 1222.

I

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I was at Dindigul, completing the Settlement of that District. I returned to Madura in the beginning of August left it again, on the 29th for Peraumallay, at the request of Colonel Blackburne, to assist him, in the Decision of the Boundary dispute, between the Countries of Shevagunga and Tondamaun, from this Station proceeded to Ramnad which I reached on the 15th Septr. to enquire into some Complaints, against the Salt Servants, and to take further evidence as to the Age of the young Zemindar, and finally as I had before the honor of stating to your Board, returned to Madura in the Month of January having during the whole of the fusly been absent on tour in different parts of the District nearly ten Months - I trust therefore that I shall receive the authority of your Board for drawing my tent Allowance for the whole of the last fusly -

(Signed) R. Peter Collr

Dindigul ...
18th October 1813

To the Civil Auditor

Fort St. George

Sir,

Para 1st

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 2d. Instant.

2d During the period, in which I signed Mr. Jessup's receipts, previous to his going to Ceylon, he was absent, on duty, in the District, and therefore could not sign them himself. If they are incorrect, I shall be obliged, by your pointing out to me, in what way they are so, and I shall be happy to correct them. —

3d. With regard to that Gentleman's Tent Allowance, and pay being drawn by me, during his absence, I did it, as a matter of course, not being aware, at that time of the order. an Extract of which, you transmitted to me. —

4th. No Tent Allowance, was drawn, after receiving the instructions of the Board, regarding those Allowances, and as Mr. Jessup, had been along while in the District, and had been, at Considerable expence, in fitting himself out,

with

with Tents &c. I trust, Government will Sanction the Amount drawn by him, up to the end of December.

(Signed) R. Peter Collr.

Dindigul
[?]th Octr. 1813

To the President and Members of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

1st. I have the honor to forward, a Statement Comparative shewing the Cultivation of fuslies 1222. and 1223. up to the 31st. October in each year.

2d. I am sorry to add that there is a great want of rain in the District as since the middle of last Month but a very small quantity has fallen which has caused a decrease in the extent of Cultivation for Octr. last.

(Signed) Rous Peter Collr.

To

To the Collector of

Tinevelly

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8th Instant with its enclosure, and in reply beg leave to inform you that the authorities required, are not to be found amongst the Records of this Office —

I find by a List of papers, that the letter bundles and Diary from 1796 to 1801. and from June 1803 to June 1808. as also the Monthly accounts of Sequestered pollams from the 13th July 1799. to September 1803. were transferred to you by Mr. Kinloch, but as a Statement Comparative forwarded by Mr. Kinloch under date the 26th July 1807 relates to the subject I herein enclose a Copy of it. —

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

Madura
16th Novr. 1813

To

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To the Accountant General

Fort Saint George

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of the 9th and 22d Inst. — The former I should have answered at an earlier period had not I been desirous of ascertaining as nearly as possible, the time at which I should be able to despatch the Treasure, directed by you — From Circumstances, I much fear that I shall be unable to despatch it, before the end of this Month — I shall however use every exertion, to remit it earlier, and shall not fail to give you immediate notice of the same. —

(Signed) R. Peter Collr.

Madura 27th Novr. 1813

To the Resident in

Travancore

Sir,

I beg leave to enclose translates of papers, relating to the Cardamom Hills, &

request

request to Know, whether, the Travancore, people have received your instructions to act, in the manner, they have done. —

As no decision has yet taken place as to what is to be considered the Boundary between the two countries, I certainly consider myself, authorized to gather the Cardamoms, as usual, until such decision has been made —

Madura
13th Decr. 1813

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

From the Dindigul Tahsildar 1st Decr. 1813

I had yesterday written that I would ascertain the truth & report regarding the information received about the Travancoreans having apprehended & taken the Merchants, Hoozzoor, & Head Cutchery peons, fire Arms &ca from Peraungoorhom Gardens — By a letter from the Ameen, dated the 29th he mentions that he had obtained Wakmoolums from the Merchants who had made their escape from the Travancoreans & forwarding Copies thereof which is herewith transmitted —

Wakmoolum given by Shevaram Chetty of Combay belonging to Peraungoorhom Cardamom Garden 29th Novr. 1813 —

I

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I and all the Chetties, Gardeners and peons halted at Utchengoody at Keelmalay, on our way to Peraungooshom Garden, Vareka Manan sent directions by Mootyenederan to erect habitations & to gather Car-damoms for us. Relying with confidence thereon we all proceeded, & whilst on our way, Shucken (Vareka Manan's Brother) with about 60 Enovars armed with bludgeons & Bows and Arrows, came and apprehended us with the Arms & Articles we had in our possession, beat us, and took us to Vaidoor Keel pareyaur, where Vareka Manan & the Travancore peons were. The whole of that day we were surrounded and watched, & the conversation that then passed, was, "That Pavikavetty "Rowootten's Nephew, Meerah lavay, was come with "some people to Thodakoolyperiar Bazar to trade. "That Vareka Manan is to distribute his people "with the Travancore peons to gather the Cardamom "from Peraungooshom, Chengoorendan, Parapompau-ray &c Gardens. That the Roads to Autooverray "Odapensholay, Aunapervungul, Elayacaudoo &ca Gardens "are repaired, & that people are coming to collect the "Cardamoms from them. That this years produce is "to be taken as a present by Vareka Manan, the "Chief of all the Manans. Named Talay Malay-"manan, Gobara Manan, Mootathatnoopen Soon

" Dra-

"diapaundy Enovah Manan &c.ª and the Hill inhabi-
"tants belonging to them called Enovars, Moothavars
"Vooraliis, Pulleyers &c.ª to the number of about 2,000
"people – That Vankatnanan & Parakavetty Rowootten
"have engaged with Colonel Munro to apprehend &
"deliver all people with their Articles at Nillaka
"mookoo, who may be found to come upon the Hills
"& that Vankatnanan has been empowered to do so
"under written orders from Colonel Munro."

When information was received that a Suvady Kareagar, Hircarrah & peons were coming from Thodakoolypettah, & whilst preparations were making to proceed to them – I. Palaneyaudy Chetty, Utchya-Goundan – Bodee – & Tavaurom Sooben made our escape into the Jungle & came to our several villages –

Thus has been what had passed –

(Signed) Sevaram Chetty –

From the Dindigul Tasb.ʳ 5.ᵗʰ Dec.ʳ 1813 –

I have already reported that the Travancorians had taken the Articles & people who were at the Bazar of Thodakoolyperiar, Peraungoo-thom & Parapomparay Gardens on the Cardamom

Hill

113 227

Hill & I have now the honor to send an Account of the Articles & people that were taken - I also enclose Copy of a Olah from Palanyandy pillay Monegar of Parapomparay & Namasevayem pillay Brother of Mootoosawmy pillay Conicopoly of Thodakoolyperiar Bazar requesting that something may be sent to them for their Expences, that they are on their way to Quilon, & that a letter may be sent to Colonel Munro, regarding them - As also Copy of a Wakmoolum given by Choken Chetty of Tavaurom at the Ameens Cutchery - Poenembalem Moodely who was sent as Monegar to gather the Cardamoms from Odapentholay, Autoveray &ca Gardens mentions in his Olah to the Ameen that Vaukatmanans Brother with 4 people were sent to bring Talaymalay Manan, & that he answered, he would not attend without receiving orders from the Cutchery, as his dependance is on the Paundy Country, that therefore the above people are waiting upon Talaymalay Manan - That Vareka Manan with 500 people, 2 Guards, 2 Kareagars, & peons are at Varenjaunkoottee - Aur, adjacent to Odapensholay & that they intend to take Cardamoms -

The

The above information was brought to Poanembalem Moodely by Mauree Mootoo Chetty of Malingapooram as being directed by Talay-malay Manan to inform him, & gave his Attachee to that effect, Copy of which with the Monegars Olah is sent for information. —

The Aumeen further Mentions that the Monegar & peons &c.a who were proceeding to Chengaroondan Garden returned on being informed by Vairavanen (Caun Meerah Rowattens man) who was apprehended & made his escape from the Travancorians, that about 15 peons & Vooraluis were proceeding as far as Pooleya malay to take Cardamoms, that people are watching at Thodakoolyperiar Bazar & that people are expected to come to gather the products of Chengaroondan Garden under written orders from Colonel Munro on which Account the inhabitants totally refuse to go to the Gardens

The Aumeen Mentions that he had sent by Venkatramraiz peon, on the 21st Nov.r 3. S. Pagodas for the Expences of the people who were taken by the Travancorians —

List

List of the Articles taken by the Travancoreans from the Bazar of Thodakorlyperiar on the Cardamom Hills—

	Value
103½ Measures of Rice	Rs 32⅝
82½ Measures Salt	4¼
3 Cumbleys	7½
9½ pieces of Cloth 24 Cubits Ea	122⅞
15 pieces of Cloth	95⅞
7 Handkerchieves	22¾
1 Kundangy or Striped Cloth	13
5 Tolams Tobacco	55
3/4 do. Munjal	2⅝
5/8 do. Dammer	2½
3/4 Measure Cardamom Seed	2
½ Tolam Nut	4½
Matts	¾
Murrel used for Rope	¼
	409½

Names of the persons & Arms what have likewise been taken—

Namasevoyen pillay Brother of Mootoosawmy Coneco-poly of the Bazar—

1 Sword

1 Musket

Palaniyandy pillay Monegar of Parapomparay with a Swor[d]

Royan Tibbendy peon with a Sword—

Cawder Cawn with a Musket

Naree pillay with a Musket

Soobah Naick Hoozzoor peon

Caumatchyapa Moodely—a Watcher or Spy sent to Peraungorshom—

Beer

Beer peon with a Sword-
Mazaur peon with a Musket
Curpanen peon with a Musket
Croolandy Hoozzoor peon
Luckiah ramasawmy Head cutchery peon with a Sword-
Cautah Goorven - - - do - - - - - - with a Sword-

Moreover the Articles belonging to the abovesaid individuals, as also Articles brought by Merchants for trade were also taken-

From the Dindigul Tahsildar 7th Decr 1813.

The Ameen mentions in his letter of the 5th that Mootyapillay Monegar with peons were sent to gather the Cardamom produce of Chen-=goorendan Garden, & that when they were there, a Olah was received from Shanaudy pillay & Ramen Chetty Nattamkar of the Shaidees ordering all the inhabi-=tants to return to Cumbom with their Articles, or otherwise, as Parakavetty Rowootten, & a Chief with peons &ca were expected in the course of tomor-=row at that place, the whole of them would be apprehended- That in consequence all the inha-=bitants had proceeded to Cumbom without gather-=ing the whole of the Cardamoms, & that the inha-=bitants of Odapensholay had also left the place-

That

That it is necessary, that they should be ordered to return to the Gardens, as without them the produce cannot be gathered, & that the Cardamoms which have been collected are kept to dry on Moo-tyen paray Rock, where the Monegar & peons are waiting.

(Signed) Narrain Row
Tasfd

(A true Translate)
(Signed) R. Peter
Collr

To the President & Members
of the Board of Revenue,

Gentlemen,

I deem it my duty to state to your Board, that the Zemindar of Ramnad has appointed as his Minister, Sungley Sherogar, a person very unfit in my opinion, for a situation of such consequence. He was I believe deeply concerned in the late rebellion, & a reward was offered I understand for his Head.

Madura 20th Decr 1813.

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr

To

To the Post Master General
Fort Saint George

Sir,

As the rates of Postage to letters, at the Stations of Madura, Dindigul, & Ramnad vary - I beg leave to forward corrected tables of them; & to request your Authority for using them in future -

Madura 15th January 1814 - (Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

To the Zemindar of Ramnad,

I am directed by the Board of Revenue to return to you your Address which was forwarded by Tappal - and to inform you, that the Board have no concern whatever with the Consideration of disputed Claims, but that all such matters, are exclusively for the cognizance of the Established Courts of Judicature -

Madura 25th January 1814 - (Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

To

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To the Officer Commanding
the Southern Division
of the Army.

Sir,

Para 1st. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 22d Instant and in reply beg leave to state, that I do not consider the continuance of the Effective Troops, at the Stations of Ramnad, & Dendigul, at all necessary — As the Invalids I should conceive, capable of performing every duty that may be required —

2d. In Madura as the Fort is large, and the duties more numerous — A third Company would perhaps be necessary —

3d. On this subject however the Commanding Officer can give more correct information than I can — On Occasions of Remittances of Treasure to the Presidency which seldom happen more than twice yearly — A Guard can at all times be furnished either from Trichinopoly or from Pallamcottah —

Madura 25th. January
1812

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

To

To the President & Members
of the
Board of Revenue.

Gentlemen,

Para 1st. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Secretary's letter of 13th Instant.

2d. As the Ranee of Ramnad arrived here a few days ago, & is about to be put in possession of her Country, there will be no necessity I hope, for addressing the Magistrate, on the subject, of Shengaly Sharogah - Who I find from the records of the Court, gave in 1805, by the orders of Govt. at the suggestion of your Board, security for his good Conduct, in the Zillah Court of Ramnad.

3rd. At the end of fusly 1222. there was a Balance of 9733 Pags. against the Zemindary, this sum I did not press the Zemindar to li:quidate as I intended to have addressed your Board on the subject of remission, on Account of Chank but which I have been prevented from doing, owing to the Omission, on the part of the Zemindar, of some documents, which were

necessary

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necessary to be transmitted with the Accounts. As however he has not yet sent them, I have brought the sum of money which he paid in part of his 1st Kist to the Account of Arrears, & I was about to assume the Zemindary for Balances, when the Ranee entreated me, not to do so, promising to discharge, within eight days after her arrival at Ramnad whatever might be then outstanding & as I have little doubt of her performing her promise, I have desisted from Zuptiing the Country. Should she however fail in her word, I shall take every Measure pointed out by the Regulations for realizing the dues of Government.

Madura 26th Jany. 1814 (Signed) R. Peter Collr.

To the Accountant General
Fort Saint George

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st

In the Talooks, Choukies, & Salt Pans. All Accounts are closed, on the 12th of every Month, (to correspond with the end of the fusly)

5

& should reach this Office by the 25th up to which date, Collections of every description are entered in the Monthly Accounts, and the Accounts closed.

Were the Accounts to be closed at a later date, some delay would take place in forwarding the customary report of Cash in the Treasury. Owing to the Shroffing of the Money &ca and the Accounts could not be got ready, and despatched on the day they at present are.

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr

Madura 27th January
1812

To the Resident in
Travancore

Sir

In the Month of December the Travancorians seized, independent of the Huzzoor peons, one Kurnum, 4 Talook peons, & some Inhabitants of Cumbum, & other places

118 No. 1

places who had been sent to the Hills by me & nothing has, since that time, been heard of them - I have therefore to request, that you will be so good as to make some enquiries regarding them, & that you will inform me if these people were seized by your order.

Madura 27th Jany. 1814. (Signed) R. Peter Collr.

To the President & Members of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Para 1st I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Secretary's Letter conveying the Sanction of Government for advances to be made, to distressed Inhabitants & directing me to employ their Services in deepening Channels, Tanks, or in any other useful public works - I have accordingly employed many in this neighbourhood - who appear very grateful for the liberality of Government - indeed the

Interest

Interest which Government has thus shewn, for the welfare of its subjects, cannot fail making due impression on their minds -

2d. Since I last forwarded the Accounts of Cultivation, not one drop of rain has fallen - a more Complete failure of the Monsoon I think, never could have been witnessed - for I believe, during the whole season, scarcely three showers have fallen, in any part of the District (with the exception of some parts of the Sea Coast) and the face of the Country has that appearance now, which it usually has, in the Month of April - the Grass quite burnt up, and in some places, the Inhabitants have been absolutely obliged, to quit their Villages, not being able to procure water sufficient, for themselves & families -

3d. The greater part of the Tanks which are filled from the River, are now Completely dry - and those which depend on rain for a supply, have been almost so

for

119 239

for many Months - indeed the present state of this District, is truly lamentable - The Inhabitants have shewn the utmost readiness to Cultivate, but unfortunately, the unfavorable season, has thwarted all their Measures

Madura 8th February 1814 } (Signed) R. Peter Collr.

To the President & Members of the Board of Revenue -

Gentlemen,

Para 1st I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your late Secretary's letter under date the 29th March last transmitting Copy of a Communication from the Military Board, relative to encroachments, alleged to have been made, by certain Inhabitants, on the Officers Quarters at Madura, and directing me to report on the subject -

2d. After an attentive enquiry & from the information, which I have been able to obtain, it appears that the limits of each

Quarter

Quarter were never accurately defined, but as the occupants of the land, alleged to have been encroached upon, with the exception of Quarter No. 3 lay no claim whatever to the ground they occupy, and simply state that they erected huts ignorant of the land being attached to any public building, I am therefore of opinion that the ground was formerly considered as Annexed to the Quarters, & should it be the wish of the Hon'ble the Governor in Council to remove the present possessors, I shall have no difficulty in alloting to each, portions of ground on which they may be at liberty to erect huts.

3rd In regard to Quarter No. 3. I am of opinion with the exception of a few small huts that no encroachments have been made, the Choultry inhabited by Mahomed Modeen was bestowed upon him for his services by the Nabob. Ameer ulhind Wallajah in which Choultry he has continued to.

120 241

to reside and his right of possession until now, has never been doubted – The ground on which Mr. Patterson's house stands, and likewise supposed by Major Mandeville, to be an encroachment on Quarter 3 was granted to him by Mr. Parish some years since – The house is at a considerable distance removed from the Quarter and it appears to me a matter of doubt whether the greater part of the ground, denoted in the enclosed plan, as a Garden, was originally considered, as attached to the Quarter –

4th. I think it necessary to state for the information of your Board, that the Quarters in Question, were formerly Stone Choultries, and converted into dwelling houses for the Military on Troops being first stationed at Madura; as no allowance has ever been granted for the repairing of them, and the Garrison for some years past having consisted of only two Companies, the whole of the buildings, but more particularly those uninhabited, have fallen to decay –

I

5th I would recommend, as I now under-stand, it is shortly the intention of Govern-ment to station two Invalid Companies under the charge of an European Officer, that the Quarters, reserving one for the Commanding Officer, be disposed of by public Outcry, and the proceeds be carried to the Account of Government.

Madura 11th February 1814. (Signed) A. Peter Colln.

To the President & Members of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to report the duties performed by my Assistant

Mr.

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Mr Harrison, for the half year ending with 31st December last –

At the Commencement of the fusly, Mr Harrison Assisted me in the Settlement of the Madura District, after which finding his knowledge, of Revenue sufficient, I gave over charge of the Ma-dacolum & Terommungalum Talooks to him – as well as the Management of all the Choukies the duties of which he has conducted most satisfactorily –

Madura 4th March 1814 } (Signed) R. Peter Collr

To the President and Members of the Board of Revenue,

Gentlemen

Para 1st – I have already at different times informed you, of the complete failure of the Monsoon to the Southward – at least in land; and no District I fancy has suffered more, on that account, than the one under my Charge –, Indeed the Appearance of

of the Country around is truly melancholy - scarcely a blade of grass is there to be seen in any direction - & the whole Country more burnt up at this moment, than I ever recol-lect to have seen it, in any part of the year before - not a drop of water in any of the Tanks, & in many places, it is to be pro-cured, but with the utmost difficulty, even for the common uses of life -

2nd The Talook of Thoorroombore has been particularly unfortunate - through the whole season - most of the Tanks have been dry, owing to which, and the failure of the periodical ra[ins], scarcely one third of the Cultivation, I fear has come to perfection, and the loss in Revenue, must in consequence be very considerable -

3rd Tho' the Madura District is in the state which I have described, what is considered Extraordinary is, that Dindigul should be in nearly the same - Its being so

im-

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immediately surrounded by Hills, has until the last season, invariably ensured some supply of water, either from the Malabar or from the N. E. Monsoon, but during the last year scarcely a shower fell, and the drought has been equally felt in Dindigul as in Madura.

4th The Accompanying Statement is merely an Abstract of the number of inhabitants &ca who have been employed in deepening Tanks &ca &ca to the end of last Month –

5th In the Statement which I shall forward on the 15th will be shewn in detail the number of people employed, as well as the works which have been executed by them; such an Account, I should have forwarded now, but, as, owing to some misapprehension on the part of my Servants, of the Form which I sent them, there is likely to be some delay – I prefer forwarding the Abstract as it now is, and can transmit a more detailed one hereafter, should your Board require it –

Almost

Almost the whole people employed, are poor Inhabitants, who have been unable to procure a livelihood elsewhere - Indeed, it is the greatest Act of Charity on the part of Government, and one that cannot be forgotten - employing these poor people, who otherwise might perish from real want -

Madura 15th March 1814 - (Signed) R. Peter Collr.

To the President & Members of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen

As Grain is increasing daily in price, and will I fear, shortly be dearer, than what has been known for many years, I have been requested by the Hoozoor & Salick Servants to make an advance of four Months pay to them - which I hope your Board will be pleased to Authorize me to do -

Madura 19th March 1814 (Signed) R. Peter Collr.

To

To the President & Members
of the
Board of Revenue,

Gentlemen,

In Shevagunga & Ramnad the price pr. Garce for Salt, is less than two Pags. which I am told, does not equal one half of what is paid in Tanjore, and many of the Manufacturers have in consequence left the Pans for that Country; I therefore take the liberty of recommending, that an increase be given of one Pagoda pr. Garce, and I the more readily do so, as the common Articles of life are so extremely dear, that it is almost impossible for the Manufacturers to gain a livelihood, at the present rate, it is delivered at; and when the Monopoly price is considered, I trust the proposition will not be considered unreasonable by your Board—

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

Madura 18th March
1814—

To

To the Post Master

Trichinopoly

Sir,

One of the Tappal runners was last night stopped near the Palham river, by some people, who after beating him, & opening some of the Packets; allowed him to depart, but on a reference to the list forwarded, there is one packet deficient - I shall therefore be obliged, by your ascertaining what packet has been lost - As I have been unable to do so - owing to the list not specifying the names of the places, to which each were addressed -

Madura 19th March 1814 - (Signed) R. Peter Collr.

To the Magistrate in the Zillah of Madura

Sir,

I beg leave to inform you that the Tappal was again stopped last night near the Paulham river & in consequence

one

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one of the packets, has been lost - I shall therefore be obliged by your adopting such Measures, as you may deem Necessary for the Apprehension of the people concerned in this Act, as well as to secure as much as possible the runners from such interruptions in future -

Madura 19th March 1814 (Signed) R. Peter Collr.

To the President & Members of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Secretary's letter, dated 11th Inst. with its companiments, and to enable your Board to Judge, who have been the Aggressors I beg leave to forward, translates of different Arzees from the Tasildar of Dindigul, regarding the Cardamom Hills, as well as the Depositions of some people, and the orders which I thought necessary to give on different occasion - Most of these papers, I should have transmitted before; but as I had addressed a letter to Major Munro, to know of

of the Travancoreans, acted by his orders, I waited for his reply, that I might forward it at the same time, but until now, I have rec.d none – I shall therefore proceed to state the different occurrences –

As the Hills were in dispute and no decision had taken place, regarding them, I did not this year rent them out but kept them under Aumanee appointing an Establishment similar to the one which had before been used – This I thought, would be sufficient but from the different representations of the encroachments of the Travancoreans and the fears the Inhabitants expressed of going up the Hills unless protected by Peons, I was induced to increase it, especially as the Travancoreans had seized and confined most of the servants, who were at first employed –

I trust it will appear from the various papers now transmitted that the greatest forbearance has been used – when the people under my orders, were not only beat and confined, but actually it is said fired at

at

125 25

at one time - Indeed I had given the strictest orders to interfere in no way whatever with the Travancorians, and the small number of Peons sent by me, will I trust convince your Board that it was my object, to have no dispute whatever with those people -

The Proclamation of the 27th December, and the orders to detain the Travancore people, if they make trouble, I was induced to issue, as I heard nothing from Major Munro, and as I saw no prospect of collecting any Cardamoms without it, - but where the 50 Armed peons came from, I am at a loss to know - they were never sent by me, nor do I believe, they ever existed except in the imagination of the Travancore Servants

The place where a Choukey has been erected is in my humble Opinion within the limits of Dindigul - it was a Station until lately destroyed by the Travancorians to which the Renters or the Circar people when the Hills were kept under Aumanee took their goods for Exchange with the Hill people; it is on this side of the river Periar, which

I

I conceive divides the two Countries - It was never claimed before by the Travancoreans, This year they destroyed it, carrying away forcibly the Servants of the Circar (as well as their Goods) and confining them for many days - How far such an Act can be justified, I shall not pretend to determine, but if the Circar people are allowed to be insulted & treated in the above manner with impunity - I fear there will be no end to the encroachments of these people -

Madura 26th March 1814 - (Signed) R. Peter Collr.

To the Asst. Commissary General
Trichinopoly

Sir,

I have the honor to forward, translation of Arzees from the Dindigul & Maudacolum Tahsildar, & shall be obliged by your informing me at an early period of the quantity of Grain you may require at the Stations of Madura and Dindigul -

I have not yet received an answer

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answer from the Raunee of Ramnad, regarding the price of Grain, at that Station, when it arrives, I shall lose no time in transmitting it to you —

Madura 4th April 1814 — (Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

From the Maudacolum Tahsildar — dated 24th March 1814

I was ordered on the 21st to report where 3rd Sort Sumbah Paddy was to be procured for storing at Madura for the Commissary Dept. In how many days it was procurable — the Price pr Garce, whether to be had at the present selling price or cheaper, the quantity procurable, and the hire for bringing it to Madura from the places it is to be purchased at —

As the failure of the rains in this year, has been greater than the last year, the Produce has been less, and therefore a large Quantity of Paddy, is not procurable — Merchants from Tinnevelly & Ramnad come & buy Paddy from the Inhabitants in the villages, wherefore the price is daily increasing — The price of 3rd Sort

Sumbah

Sumbah Paddy is sold at 40 Pagodas ⅌ Garce in Sholavundan & Maudacolum - Six Garce of Paddy may be procured by the 30th. of April, which is not to be had for less, than the present selling price, and may perhaps cost more, nor is the Six Garce to be procured at one place, but in different places, - as it will be necessary to make a distribution on each village for the Collection of it, the hire from which places to Madura is 3 Star Pags. ⅌ Garce, making in all 51 S. Pagodas ⅌ Garce -

From the Dindigul Tahsildar - dated 24th. March 1814

Acknowledging the receipt of Takeed of the 21st. and after recapitulating its contents states, that owing to the Tanks which depended upon rain, not having received water, that Nunjeh Cultivation, has not been made, by that the Nunjeh Cultivation which has been made, by being watered from the River Water-courses have not yielded so abundantly as the last year owing to their not being watered by rains, and as Merchants from different parts

parts came and buy the Grain, the price is daily increasing; and that he had written to the Ameens to report on the subject, and that the Ameen of Toddycombo states, that the Paddy produced in Artoor and Ahtoor has already been sold & that about 50 Houses in Ahtoor had been consumed by fire — That the Iyempully Ameen states, that there is a great difficulty in pro-curing Paddy — that 3d Sort is not to be had, but that about 3½ Garces of 1st & 2d Sort is to be procurable at 30 Pagodas ℔ Garce & the hire 5 Pagodas ℔ Garce — The Ameen of Nella-cottah states that the Inhabitants say, that Paddy is not to be had at Battalagoontah — That no Answer has been yet received from the Ameen at Tenkaray & Woottumpollam, nor does it appear that the Inhabitants are will-ing to give Paddy

That if he is informed of the Quan-tity required for the Commissariat he will make a distribution upon the Villages where Nunjah Cultivation has been made, and pay

them

them on delivery at the selling price; That the price is daily increasing & there is no probability of its getting Cheaper -

(True Translate)

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

To the Assistant Commissary General
Trichinopoly -

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 6th.

Orders have been sent to the Tahsildar at Dindigul to deliver over immediately to your Conicopoly at that Station 15 Garce of Paddy at the rate mentioned in my former letter -

Madura 12th April 1814. (Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

To the President and Members
of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen

I have the honor to forward a Statement of the number of people employed

in

in deepening Nullahs & Tanks, from the 16th to the 31st March—

I am happy to say that the Circar has, by thus employing the poor Classes of Inhabitants induced vast numbers to remain in the District, who would have otherwise emigrated from it— it has likewise prevented, I am thoroughly convinced the commission of numberless robberies, & moreover their labors have been employed in works, which must ultimately prove highly advantageous to the Circar—

Madura 15th April 1814 } (Signed) R. Peter Collr.

To the President & Members of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Owing to the Cardamom Hills being in dispute, I did not, this year, rent them out, but kept them under Aumanee & have collected from them 1263 Tolams of Cardamoms—

Enclosure

As I have met with no Merchants

-chant here, who is inclined to purchase them, I beg leave to suggest, that public notice be given, that the Collector of Madura, will be ready to receive proposals for the disposal of them at the at the Godowns of Cumbum Goodaloor &ca. on or before the 1st of June next, or any other date yr. Bd. may think proper —

Secondumalay 27th April 1814 } — (Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

Cardamoms produced on the Cardamom Hills for Fusly 1223. under Aumanee Management —

Tolams	Polls		Candies	Md. (20)	Visp. (8)	Polls
1234 —	& 24 5/10	of Cardamom in pods	46	5	5	10½
29 —	63¾	of Cardamom seeds	1	2	1	33
1263 —	88/8		47	7	7	11½

Secondumalay 27th April 1814 —

To the Assistant Commissary General
Trichinopoly

Sir

I have the honor to forward translate of an Arzee from the Dindigul Tahsr. by which you could perceive that he has been enabled to collect 13 Garce of Paddy in addition to the 15 already delivered to your Conicopoly & I have not the least doubt, but that he will be able to procure the remaining two Garce —

The above 13 Garce he has been

directed to give over to your Conicopoly without delay –

Secondumalay 27th April 1814 (Signed) R. Peter Collr.

From the Tahsildar of Dindigul – 25th April 1814

Stating that he forwards an Acct for 13 Garce of Paddy ten of which is to be procured at Nattampollam and three at Ahtoor in Soddycombo Talook, and that as the Grain is in possession of the Inhabitants, requesting orders for the payment of the money or that it be taken in part of their Kists – That he has been informed that Paddy is not to be had at Tenkaray & Iyempully Talooks but that he has again written to the Amnans & will report the answer he receives –

(True Translate)
(Signed) R. Peter Collr.

To the President and Members
of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I do myself the honor to forward a Statement of Charges incurred in deepening & repairing Tanks & Nullahs, to the 15th Inst. –

Since

Since I had last the honor of address-
-ing you a few showers of rain, have fallen
in different parts of the District which have
been of some service in some few places, but
in others, I fear of none whatever –

In addition to the calamities which
have befallen this District, I regret, to have
it to report, that the Inhabitants are losing
great numbers of their Cattle, by diseases brought
on, from the extreme heat which has exceeded in
the present year, any thing I have ever experienced
in this part of India –

One of the diseases which has de-
-stroyed many Bullocks is the Vara Kaunay
which is caused by the intense heat of the
Weather – the hoofs & the Mouth get full of
sores – & the mode of cure observed is, to make
the Bullock enter water frequently – which
with good care & feeding sometimes recover
the Animal – Another is the Eira Moothee
or Pedree shows a disorder in the liver –
which is almost incurable the symptoms of
its approach, is water constantly running

from

730 261

from the Bullocks mouth –

The Ordee, is likewise common & is similar to the small pox – & will never return, after a Bullock has been once cured of it –

Secondumalay 27th April 1814 } (Signed) R. Peter.
Coll.

To the President and Members
of the Board of Revenue,

Gentlemen,

Having repeatedly called on the Ranee of Ramnad, to fulfil her promise, of discharging the full amount of the Kists then due, within eight days, after being in possession of her Zemindary, I have received among others in reply the accompanying Arzee, which I beg leave to forward, & to request your [illegible]ctions, for my future guidance –

I am fully aw[illegible] that it will be necessary, for me to offer my opinion on the subject – Yet I must confess, that I offer it with some degree of hesitation – first of all because the sum the Ranee is desirous

of

of including with the next years Kists is of so great an Amount - & secondly should the Country be assumed little I am convinced could be collected from it, & if it should be sold so immediately after her being put in possession, it would be much better, had she never sued in Court at all for it - as the expences on such a law suit must have been very considerable -

The late seasons have been certainly most unfavorable - which combined with its being a disputed County, must have caused a considerable falling off in Revenue - as it cannot be supposed that a person whose claims were doubtful could take much pains in the improvement of an Estate which he had a chance at least of losing -

With regard to the 35,000 Pagd. said to have been collected by the late Zemindar, I have enquired of him, if it was the case, & he has assured me, that he only collected 25,000 part of which (nearly 10,000) he sent for his Kists, & the remainder he paid to his servants -

which

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which is most correct, I cannot determine tho' I think it may naturally be supposed that the boy, when he knew that the decission, (which was passed in December & carried into execution on the February following) was against him, would not lose much time in collecting what he could from the different Talooks -

If the Ranee could possibly pay up, within the fusly 15 or 21,000 Pag.^s more - it would be most desirable, if she cannot & your Board are disposed to grant the indulgence petitioned for, I take the liberty of suggesting, that an interest of 12 ℔ Cent be charged on the money due -

Secondermalay 29th April 1814. (Signed) R. Peter Co^r.

To the Officer Commanding
the Southern Division of the Army

Sir,

As there are frequent feasts at Madura at which small guards are required - I shall feel obliged by your giving general directions to the Officer Commanding at that station, to furnish such guards, on my requisition - As the frequency of my absence from Madura often precludes the possability of my applying in time, through the regular channel for them - They are required

to

to attend processions, to keep off the crowd from the Sawmy coaches &c.. & on no instance, I believe, do they exceed a Havildar—

Secondermalay 6th May 1814. (Signed) R. Peter Collr.

To the Officer Commanding
the Southern Division of the Army

Sir,

I shall feel obliged, by your ordering a Guard of such strength, as you may deem necessary to attend as early as possible at the Hoozoor Treasury at Madura, for the purpose of escorting 100,000 Pags. to the Presidency—

Secondermalay 6th May 1814. (Signed) R. Peter Collr.

To the Accountant General
Fort Saint George

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter directing me to remit 100,000 S. Pags. to the Presidency which orders shall be complied with, the instant the Guard arrives—

As I have a considerable sum in Cully Chs. I wish to know, if I am authorized
to

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To the President and Members
of the Board of Revenue.

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to forward a Statement of the sums which have been Recd. as well as the outstanding Balances against the Ramnad Zemindary which I omitted with my letter of the 29th Ultimo —

Secondermalay 11th May 1814 —

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

Statement

2653

Statement shewing the Kists, the Amount received and the Balance due in the Ramnad Zemindary for Fusly 1223 up to 27th April 1814.

	Pa	f	c
Amount Kist for Decr. 1813	10,000	"	—
ditto for January 1814	10,000	"	—
ditto for February 1814	15,000	"	—
ditto for March 1814	20,000	"	—
ditto for April 1814	20,000	"	—
	75,000	"	—
Amount recd. up to 27th Apl. 1814	24,856	40	22
Total Balance	50,143	4	58

Secondermalay 10th May 1814.

(Signed) R. Peter
Colr.

Kists for May	10,000
Do. for June	9733
	19,733

To.

to dispatch coins of that description to the Presidency -

As the guard applied for, will in all probability, be ordered from Palamcottah, an early reply, to this letter, will most likely reach me before its arrival -

Scondermalay 6th May 1814 - (Signed) R. Peter Collr.

To the President & Members
of the Board of Revenue -

Gentlemen,

I had the honor to receive your Circular letter regarding Treasuries, just as I was about to leave Madura on my Circuit - I therefore, as I had examined the Cash Chest only two days before, and as I retained the Key of it myself, determined on deferring my report till the next examination, which took place to day, when I have found all correct -

Scondermalay 14th May 1814 - (Signed) R. Peter Collr.

To the Post Master General
Fort Saint George.

Sir,

I have the honor to forward translate of an Urzee recd. from the Tappal Writer of Madura - This is the second or third time the

runners

runners have been stopped, & I have in consent with the Magistrate dispatched Peons to endeavour to discover the people who were guilty of such an Outrage —

Teroomungalom 20th May 1814 (Signed) R. Peter Collr

To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to forward the Abstract Statement of Demand Collection & Balance of the Districts of Dindigul Madura &ca for the Month of April 1814.

So large a Balance appearing would have been a cause of much vexation and regret to me, was I not perfectly convinced that it has been unavoidable —

The seasons of late have been unparallelled and in consequence the difficulties in collecting have been great, & increase daily — Your Board however may rest assured that my utmost exer-tions shall be used to leave as little Balance at the end of the Fusly as the present circum-stances will admit of —

Teroomungalom 20th May 1814 — (Signed) R. Peter Collr

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To the Magistrate in the Zillah
of Trichinopoly

Sir

I have the honor to inform you that the Madras Tappal was twice stopped on the morning of the 24th Instant - the 1st time near Maitooputty, and the second, near Pullah putty, by some Kullers, and after opening some of the packets & severely maltreating the runners, they allowed them to depart; As this is the third time the Tappal has been stopped within these few Months, I shall feel obliged, by your taking such measures, as you may deem most effica-cious to prevent such occurrences in future -

Terooroongalom 20th May 1814 - (Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

To the President and Members
of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to inform you that I yesterday examined the Cash Chest, & found the Cash correspond precisely with the Amount Collections -

Sholavundan 4th June 1814 - (Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

To

To the President and Members

of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Owing to the severe losses which the Inhabitants have sustained in their cattle during the present fusly, superadded to the extreme draught of the year, a sum greater than usual will be required for Tuckauvee - In the accompanying statement is laid down, what will be necessary to advance - & that the money may not be misapplied - I shall give the Inhabitants myself, what sum they need, as I proceed in the settlemt. of the District - I hope therefore to receive your early sanction for making the advance -

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

Sholavendan 6th June 1814

To the President and Members

of the Board of Trade

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to forward a Statement Comparative of the Exports & Imports at the Frontier Choukey in the Dindigul District, shewing the Increase & Decrease, for the Official years 1812/13 & 1813/14 -

In

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In the Imports there is an increase of near 17000 Rupees, which may be ascribed to the Market not being supplied during the preceding year with the usual quantity of Betel nut — In the Exports there is likewise an increase but no particular reason is assigned for it —

Cavendan 14th June 1814 — (Signed) R. Peter Collr.

The same to the Board of Revenue —

To the President and Members of the Board of Revenue,

Gentlemen,

Para 1st I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Secretary's letter transmitting Extracts from the Minutes of the Court of Directors and certain Queries for Answer, as well as conveying orders for the immediate introduction of the Ryotwar system, into the District of Madura &ca —

2d In Madura this system can be introduced without difficulty & the reductions in the Teerwah in some few villages, which it will be necessary to make, will I think, be of so trifling a nature, as scarcely to deserve notice —

In:

Indeed from the disposition of the Inhabitants to cultivate in those villages, where the reductions are required, I entertain sanguine hopes, that there will be a considerable increase of Revenue, instead of decrease; this however depends so much upon the seasons, that it will be useless, to anticipate too much —

3d. In Dindigul I have ascertained most satisfactorily, that it is the wish of all classes of the Inhabitants to have the Ryotwary system introduced — provided they have the assessment on their lands revised and lowered — in preference to the Decennial lease; and they all appear most willing to cultivate, an additional quantity of land, to make up as far as possible in the first year, for whatever loss may be sustained from the reduction of the Teerwah — I therefore certainly recommend its immediate introduction into this Province also, & I think it will prove more advantageous to the Circar, and certainly more desirable to the Inhabitants, than a Decennial rent —

First Because by lowering the Teerwah, there will be an increase in cultivation and the good lands which are now left uncultivated owing

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owing to the high Assessment will then be brought under cultivation —

Secondly — Because, however good the season, the Circar could only receive whatever the lease should be given for, which was fixed at a low rate calculating on bad and good seasons, for had a higher rate been proposed, it would have answered, in favorable seasons, but should there have been one bad one, the Inhabitants would have been unable to discharge their Kists, & the consequence would have been, considerable arrears, which should we attempt to realize by selling the property of the renters, would cause, in the ensuing year a still greater Balance, whereas the Inhabitants will now pay according to the extent of his cultivation which it will be naturally his wish, to extend, when he derives a profit from it in proportion to his labour —

Thirdly — Because I conceive, should the rent be continued for ten years, the renters would be always calling upon the lower Inhabitants for money, on pretence that Kists were due, and if they gained a profit, they would take care to keep them ignorant of it, and appropriate it to themselves — thus leaving the under-tenants participators

in

in the losses & not in the gains which must in the course of a very few years impoverish them, & at last render them unable to pay their rents – but by giving individual Puttyoms, it makes the lower classes of Inhabitants independent of the higher – It likewise occurs to me that when so many are concerned in the rent, each would strive to become the head – neglect his duty, and then oppress the lower tenants to discharge the kists, which must likewise ultimately impair the revenue – but by granting the Puttyom to the Individual, he becomes, as I beforesaid independent of the head people, he will give his Muchelka, according to the extent of his means, and to the nature of the season, and if any excess takes place, by passing an agreement to pay the Teervah, on such excess, it will secure the full Amount of revenue to the Circar –

vide Statemt. A.

4th. In Statement **A** I have pointed out the great difference in the Assessment of the Punjeh lands of two villages, one, in Dindigul, the other in Madura, & not at any very great distance from each other, by which your Board will perceive the in-

inequality of the Assessment in the former Province. Time alone can only shew how far a Country has been regularly and justly assessed, and I think there can be no doubts of the lands (Punjah especially) in Dindigul being much too highly so; for if Inhabitants desert lands, which bear a high teerwah, and cultivate those only which bear a low, it is convincing that such lands are too highly assessed, and by their being so must cause a gradual loss of Revenue, and in the end, the Cultivator must desert his Country, "for where the rate of Assessment becomes so oppressive as not to leave the Ryot a sufficient share of the produce for the Maintenance of his family, and the expences of Cultivation, he must at length desert his land"

Cornwallis

Vide Statement B

5th In Statement **B** is the rate of Assessment of the Punjah lands of two villages, which does not vary so much as the Punjah - When Mr. Hurdis formed his settlement, he fixed a certain teerwah on the lands then cultivated, which were called Puttoom lands, but a lower one on those which were then tarishee - this has caused the Inhabitants to leave the lands that were then cultivated, and to bring under Cultivation those which were at that time waste because they derived a greater profit by cultivating

Vide Mr. Parish's Report 24th April

those

those lands, than they did by cultivating the former—

Vide Statement C accompanied with Punjah Statemt. D—

In statement C I have entered the Punjah lands which were Cultivated last year, distinguishing those which were brought under Cultivation in Mr. Hurdis's time, and those that were then Tunshee, by which you will observe that of the latter, there were no less than 49932—10 Gcontahs at cultivated—Further prooff I think cannot be required to demonstrate that the Puttgom lands have been over-assessed, and to remedy such an Evil must be a most desirable object, and the sooner it is accomplished the better—

6th. I am well aware of the difficulties attending the reclassing & re-surveying of lands, but notwithstanding I cannot refrain from expressing a wish for its adoption—especially as the Inhabitants are very desirous of it—it will take some time & trouble to Complete, but it would prove much more satisfactory to me if it were adopted than lowering the teerwah on the Classification of Mr. Hurdis, (as it does not appear that, that Gentleman, ever took the average produce of lands &ca as it is my wish to do/. & in the end I am convinced, turn out beneficial

to.

to the County - it will likewise prevent the Complaints of the Inhabitants, of one persons land being higher Assessed than anothers - and as I think I can accomplish these objects without subjecting myself to much imposition, I am very desirous of receiving your Boards early orders for commencing the survey - My Assistant and myself will be always at some of the villages ourselves superintending the examination, and whenever any doubts arise, of the lands being improperly classed, they can be examined over and over again to prove the correctness or incorrectness of the first classification -

7th The Establishment which I have stated in papers No 1 & 2 will I think be sufficent - nearly the whole of the people to be appointed will be strangers to the County & those who have to class the ground, will come from a far off, and have no concern whatever with the Inhabitants, -

8th I cannot say precisely the extent of reduction required, as it will vary in every village, tho' in some, it will equal 25 per cent I fear or more perhaps, but I trust, that the increase which the Inhabitants are desirous of making in the Cultivation will nearly counterbalance

whatever

whatever reductions may be made in the Teerwah if not in the first year or two - at least in the third, but as I have said before, it depends so much in the seasons that it is almost impossible to state correctly what length of time it will take to make - Should the seasons be good, I have no hesitation in saying that there will be no loss after the first year, or perhaps two - for no doubt can be entertained that as the Inhabitants stock increase, so will his Cultivation -

9th Should your Board approve of my proposition, or should you deem a re-survey unnecessary, & consider the reducing the Teerwah on the survey of Mr Hardis sufficient to answer every purpose, I shall be obliged by receiving your orders on the subject at as early a period as convenient -

10th For the present Fusly I propose giving the Rent, as the Teerwah now stands - in the ensuing I can make such alterations as your Board may think advisable -

Sholavundan 14th June 1814 - (Signed) A. Peter C.W.

To.

To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue -

Gentlemen,

The extreme draught which has prevailed in this District during the present fusly - combined with the badness of the three or four preceeding seasons, induces me to address your Board in behalf of the different Zemindars under my controul - From all sides I have received repeated petitions & pointing out the state of their Zemindaries - & as I am thoroughly convinced, from my own observations of the truth of their assertions - I must entreat your Board to permit me to allow them time for the discharge of their Kists - it is not one bad season that they have had to contend with - but a succession, which, with the vast decrease in population, will I trust induce you to grant my request -

Sholavundan 14th June 1814 - (Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

To.

To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue.

Gentlemen,

Para 1st. I have the honor to forward a Statement of Charges incurred for repairs up to the 31st of May last -

2d. As a sufficient quantity of rain for cultivation has fallen in some of the Divisions, many of the Inhabitants have returned to their Homes - I have therefore directed the Tahsildars in such Districts to complete the different works, which have been commenced, and then to stop all further labor -

3rd. In the Maudakolum Talook the sum expended for repairs, is more considerable than in any of the others - this has been owing to the greater part of the poor of the Neighbouring Districts having resorted thither for support - The Tanks & Nullahs which have been repaired are now in such order, as I trust, to need no further expence, for some time to come; indeed the good effects of their labor is now very apparent, for several Tanks have two & three

three Months water in them even from the small Quantity of water which has hitherto come into the river -

4th. The mode which I adopted to prevent imposition, was to appoint, independent of the Tahsildar, a Darogah to each Division, with certain instructions to superintend the General repairs; under him, was a Curnom or Gomastah at each place, where repairs were going on - this person kept accounts, which were forwarded to the Hoozoor Cutcharee, and the Curnoms & Nattamkars kept other accounts which were transmitted likewise to the Hoozoor - I had also my peons constantly enquiring at each Tank, if things were proceeding correctly, and I am happy to say (with one or two exceptions only, and which appeared to have originated in mistake) I have had reason to be well satisfied with the proceedings of all servants -

Pareacolum 24th June 1814 - (Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

P.S. Since forwarding the last Statement of Murraumut, some few showers have fallen but not equal to what should be expected at this season of the year -

To.

To the President and Members

of the

Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Para 1st. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Secretary's letter of the 9th Inst.

2d. In my address of the 14th Instant I stated to your Board the mode of Settlement I wished to be adopted in Dindigul for the present fusly and I am now at Pareacolum, awaiting your orders, which I hope to be favored with at an early period, as I am apprehensive from being close to the Hills, that some of my servants may suffer from fever, which tho' by no means common now, yet, may be brought on, by a change of climate –

3d. In Madura agreeably to your instructions I have introduced the Ryotwary system, and with the exception of two Talooks (Thooroomboor & Nuttom) I have Completed the Settlement of it – The above two Talooks I must leave to the last, owing to so many

of

the greater part of the people employed in

Meerasmut in the Maudacolum Talook have been inhabitants from Thooroomboor—

of the Inhabitants having Emigrated and as little rain has fallen, in the former Talook, especially they have not yet returned— The whole of the District has suffered for want of rain, but no part of it, as I have stated before has equally to this Talook— indeed I never saw a Country so completely burnt up; and so great is the want of Water at this Moment, that the greater part of the Town of Mellore, was destroyed by fire, a few days ago, from the Inhabitants being unable to procure water to quench it—

4th. Both settled and unsettled Districts in Dindigul & Madura have suffered from the late uncommon drought, and the only chance that I see, of realizing the Rests from the Zemindars, is to allow them time— If their Zemindaries are Assumed, what will be the consequence, (for we must look to the future, as well as the present) a part of the arrears will to be sure be recovered— but if the implements of Husbandry are sold, it deprives them of the means of Cultivation, and in the ensuing year we can expect little or nothing, whereas by allowing

-ing time, and by not depriving them of those means, one or two good years will enable them to discharge their Balances, and they will be grateful to a Government who has such consideration on their misfortunes & distresses—

Parracodlum 20th June 1814— (Signed) R. Peter Collr.

To the President and Members of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Secretary's letter transmitting copies of a Correspondence with Govt. respecting the improvement of the communication by land through the territories under the Presidency—

In my letter of the 14th February 1813 I stated such improvements as occurred to me, on the road leading from Trichinopoly to Pallamcottah, & I have now little more to add on the subject—

The Estimate for the Bridges, has been forwarded, & should your Board approve of the erection of Choultries, I will forward an

Estimate

Estimate for each of them likewise—

Boats I fear, will not be needed in the Madura or Vyggay river should they however at any time be required it will give me infinite pleasure to report it to your Board—

Near Mellore there is a kind of a causeway—which during the rainy season, is bad for wheel carriages—the Estimate for repairing it, is between 4 & 500 Chuckrums, but I think if the Prisoners were put under my directions for a short time, I could repair it at a less expence—

Periacolum 20th June 1814 (Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue—

Gentlemen,

Para 1st. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Secretary's letter forwarding Extracts of your Proceedings under date 23d. Ultimo That I should not have acted up to the wishes of your Board, must at all times be a subject of regret to me—My Motives for not assuming the Zemindary were for the best, and I really cannot refrain from stating, with all due

deference

deference to the sentiments of your Board, that I do not believe, had I assumed the Country, little, if any thing more, than what has already been paid into the Treasury would have been collected

2^d. I never at any time, had any great hopes of realizing much from its Assumption, but I thought by giving the Raunee a little time, it might enable her to borrow money, so as to have rendered her capable of discharging a greater portion of her Kists than could possibly have been collected from the Zemindary - in this however, she has unfortunately failed, owing to the present state of the District -

3^d. Tho' the Gross Jummah is 142,000 Pag^s yet, I most firmly believe, that the Cultivation during the present fusly, did not amount to much more than one half, & when it is considered how completely the Monsoon failed during this, & the badness of the seasons during the two preceding years - the number of Inhabitants who have died from fever, small pox, and who have left the Country from want - superadded to its being a disputed Country, the great falling off in Revenue, will not, I think

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think, appear so surprizing—

4th In Justice to the Raunee, I must say from the enquiries which I have naturally made, I cannot learn that she has appropriated the Collections to the discharge of her private debts— Indeed her being aware that she was liable to lose that Country which she had been at such trouble & expence to recover, if she did not discharge her kists, would have been a sufficient motive, for her using every exertion to liquidate her public debts, prior to her private ones—

5th The recommendation of your Board to Government must ever ensure the gratitude of the Raunee, and I have not the smallest doubt but that every exertion in her power will be used to reduce the Balance at the end of the Fusly to 50,000 Pagodas and to shew herself at all times worthy of the indulgence granted to her— Should she be unable to discharge the Amount due, above the 50,000 Pagodas, by the end of the Fusly; I shall in obedience to your orders assume the Zemindary—

With

6th With regard to the 1200 Rupees drawn Monthly for the support of the family of the Zemindar the only Authority that I can discover for the drawing of the extra 200 Rupees, is, that it has been allowed from the year 1795 - I cannot learn from the records of this Office on what account it was drawn, but I suppose it must have been for the two + Sons in law -

Vide Amount drawn in No. 1. from July 1795 & Copy of Extract of Retrench^t. No. 2.

+ The two Husbands of the present Rannee

7th In the accompanying list is shown in what mode the 1200 Rupees has been distributed, as well as what allowance has been discontinued - The allowance to the first son in law is still continued, as the Rannee has separated from him, who was her first Husband -

Vide No. 3.

Perreacolum 20th June 1814. (Signed) R. Peter Collr.

To the President & Members
of the
Board of Revenue -

Gentlemen,

Para 1st In 1812 the Box belonging to the Agent, who sells Stampt Paper at the Court

Court House, was broken open, and 190. Rupees taken from it. The Box was deposited in the Court House, as being considered the safest place, Some of the peons who were on Guard that night were suspected by the Magistrate as being concerned in the Robbery & were Committed by him for Trial, and though the theft could not be completely proved against them, yet the Judge on Circuit thought their Conduct so very reprehensible, that he recommended, they should be dismissed from their situation, as unworthy of trust, which I believe was accordingly done—

2By a letter which I have received from the Superintendent of Stamps, he does not consider me entitled to receive Credit for the Amount, until the Sanction of Govt. has been received for so doing—

3. By Clause IV, Section IV. Regn. 10.1800— "Collectors are only held responsible for all paper damaged or not forthcoming, after they shall have received charge of it"— in the present instance, the paper was forthcoming, and was sold, but the proceeds were stolen— I trust therefore, under these Circumstances,

Your

your Board will be so good as to obtain the authority of Government for the Superintendent of Stamps to give me Credit for the Amount —

Pooreacoleum 1st July 1814 — (Signed) R. Peter
Colr.

To the President & Members
of the
Board of Revenue,

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to forward a Statement of Charges incurred for repairs from the 1st to the 15th Ultimo — by which you will perceive that the expenditure on that Account, has been less than during the same period in former Months the reason of its being so, was explained in my letter of the 24th Ultimo — I regret however to state, that the late reports from the Tahsildars, & Ameens, are of a very unfavorable nature — The showers of rain which have fallen, have in some places been sufficient for the Inhabitants to plough up their ground, but in a very few instances, have they been sufficient, to enable them to sow the seed —

Tho'

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Tho' the last seasons were so bad, the commencement, was more favorable than the present has been, - & should there be a failure of the Monsoon, in the present year, the consequence will be more distressing, in some parts of the District, than it is possible for me to describe -

The Country is so completely parched up for want of rain, that it is not a common quantity that will restore its verdure -

Perracoolum 4th July 1814 (Signed) R. Peter Collr.

To the Magistrate in the Zillah of Madura

Sir,

I have the honor to forward copy of my letter of 14th March last - together with the Statement which accompanied it - also a paper shewing the amount which a Cawlgar may receive, should the whole of the lands, which are given up to him be cultivated -

In this District there are no bodies of armed Revenue Servants - unless the few Sibbendy peons under me, can be considered as such - if so, they are 38 in Number

-ber- & their Services, it will be impossible for me to dispense with- their pay is 1/4 Pagoda p. mensem-

Puréacolum 6th July 1814- (Signed) R. Peter
Collr

To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue-

Gentlemen,

Vide Statement No. 1

Vide Statement No. 2

Para- 1st I have the honor to forward a Statement of Balances outstanding against the Zemindars for the present fusly- Of this Amount 00,076.. 4.. 50. are due by the Zemindars of Ramnad & Shevagunga & 32246.. 35.. 20. by the Zemindars of Dindigul & Madura- Of this sum 8590.. 31.. 56. should be deducted from Assumed Zemindaries & Minors- the settlement falling short of the Istimrar in that sum- The Balance therefore against the remaining Zemindars, is 23656.. 3.. 44. which sum, or the greater part at least, I hope to be enabled to collect by the beginning of December- Should your Board be inclined to allow me that length of time for the purpose, which I strongly recommend, on Account of the many Calamities which have befallen this County-

When

2d. When 29 out of the 35 Estates were assumed, six were continued in possession of the Zemindars on Account of there being no Balance against them - Since that time, however a Balance has accumulated to a large Amount in three of them, and as I see no prospect whatever of its being liquidated, and as the Estates are gradually declining from want of that attention which is necessary for their improvement - I would strongly recommend that they be assumed in common with the others - The Zemindars are willing to relinquish all claim to them, provided they are not called upon for the Balance which it would be useless to insist on, as they have not a fanam to discharge them -

Maitmungalom
Buttalagoontah
Iyaloor.
Vide Statement No. 3.

3d. To continue them to the Zemindars would only cause an increase of Balances, as they have not the means of making advances to the Inhabitants, & the Tanks from neglect are so completely out of order, that a sum of money is required immediately for their repair - The Maitmungalom man is a character much disliked by the Inhabitants, as he has not treated them with that kindness which will ensure the regard of his people - but on the

Con-

Contrary, he seems to have treated them with harshness, and to have caused many to leave the Estate. He is besides desirous of yielding it up, provided he is not called upon for the Balance — which I certainly hope will be complied with — The Dyaloor is a young Man, & is desirous of having nothing further to say to his Estate — The Estate of Battalagoontah was purchased by the Zemindar of Nellacottah, but as there is a very large Balance against him, I would recommend that his Pollam, as well as Estate be assumed — I cannot recommend that either be given up to him, as he appears to be a man, in whom little trust can be placed — When his Zemindary was made over to him a sum exceeding 20,000 Pagodas was given to him, which was Collected, when his Zemindary was under Assumption, this sum he has not only lavished away, but has likewise collected sums from the Inhabitants above their regular Kists — To restore this Zemindary therefore to such a Man, will only cause an increase of Balance in the ensuing year, for I am thoroughly convinced, from his known Character, that if he has possession of the Country again, let the

Vide Statement No. 4

the years be ever so good, he will only pay part of the kists, & will take the remainder for his own private use —

4th. Since fuslly 1215 with the exception of one year, the Sundypoor Zemindar has not paid up his kists — He likewise received a sum when his Pollam was given over to him — he is willing to give up his Pollam, & trusts that some allowance may be made for his subsistence, but as this Zemindary may be over assessed — I shall state further particulars regarding it, when I reply to your Secretary's letter of the 30th May last —

5th. Should your Board coincide with me, as to the propriety of assuming the Estates of Mailmungalow, Battalagoontah, & Iyaloor, as well as the Pollam of Nellacottah, & for the present Sundypoor — the Establishment required for the whole will amount to 44. 22. 40. Pas Mensem — Mailmungalow can be entered in the Tenkaray Division — No additional Establishment therefore will be necessary for that Estate —

6th. From the length of time, which has elapsed since the Tanks have received any repairs, the greater part of them are in a very

bad

Vide Statement No. 5.

Vide Statement No. 6 & 7. bad Condition, to which may be ascribed partly the cause of the Balances outstanding – the sum requisite on this Account is 2093 . 6 . 29 & for Tuckauney 500 . 27 . 23 which I hope your Board will be pleased to Sanction –

Ramnad 65.076 . 5 . 50. Shevagunga 23,000 . . .

7th In the Ramnad & Sheevagunga Zemindaries the Balance is 89,076 . 4 . 50 – In the former 50,000 Pagodas have been allowed to lay over till fuslies 1224 & 25. & the remainder 15,076 . 4 . 50 to be paid by the end of this fusly – 23,000 Pagodas due by the Sheevagunga Zemindar, 11,000 of which will be paid in the course of a few days, the remaining 12,000, the Zemindar wishes to be allowed till October to discharge – This favor I beg leave to recommend, as the year has been so very bad, and as the Zemindar has always hitherto discharged his Kists with tolerable punctuality –

Woottumpollam 10th July 1814. (Signed) R. Peter
Coll.r

P.S. As it will be necessary to make with as little loss of time as possible the repairs, & advances, required in Statement 6 & 7. I shall be obliged by receiving your early orders on the Subject –

To.

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To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to report the duties performed by my Assistant Mr. Harrison

Until lately he has continued in charge of the Mundacolum & Teroomungalom Talooks & the Chuckees - but severe indisposition of late, has rendered him unable to attend to business - He has likewise accompanied me on my different tours - & it is with much pleasure, I inform your Board that his conduct on all occasions has been zealous, & his attention to business unremitting

Woottumpollam 10th July 1814 (Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue,

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to report the period of my Resident in Tents, duties performed during my tour &c. agreeably to your in-

instructions of the 16th December 1812 –

In the Month of July, I was at Mellore completing the Settlement of the Madura District, & I returned to Madura in the beginning of August – In September I proceeded to the Salt pans to enquire into some Complaints alledged against the Salt Servants, from whence I repaired to Dindigul to make enquiries regarding the future Settlement of the District & returned to Madura sometime in Novr. From Novr. till April I remained at Madura only making occasional visits of four & five days to the neighbouring Talooks – to examine Tank repairs – & in April I commenced the Settlement of Madura which I was unable to do before owing to the extreme heat – & have been in Tents ever since – I hope therefore the period of my residence in Tents (nearly 7 Months) will entitle me to the full Tent Allowance for Fusly 1223 –

Woottumpollam 12th July 1814 (Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

To the President & Members
of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

The Zemindar of Ramnad not

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not having discharged the Balance due, above the 50,000 Pagodas, allowed to lay over, to the present & ensuing fuslies, I this day sent people to assume the Country — agreeably to the orders of your Board —

The cause of the Zemindar being unable to raise the Amount, is to be attributed to a report, which has been in Circulation, that orders have been issued to the Court of Appeal, to restore the Country to the late Zemindar, until the final award has been made; if such be the case, it is to be regretted — as the Confusion which frequent changes, must create, must I am sure be too evident to need being pointed out —

Dindigul 23rd July 1814 — (Signed) R. Peter
Collr

To the President and Members
of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to forward Statement of Charges incurred for repairs up to the 30th Ultimo —

Since forwarding the last Statement of Measurement, I regret to say, that scarcely a shower has fallen, in any part

of

of the Districts & inconsequence the distress of the Inhabitants as your Board may conceive is very great— In some of the Talooks I have been obliged to recommence employing the poorer orders of people, to prevent their leaving their villages in search of a livelihood else where—

Denidegul 23rd July 1814 (Signed) R. Peter
Collr

To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue,

Gentlemen,

From the very exhausted state of the Thoorcomboor Talook, I was under the necessity, when I received intimation that the 2d Battalion of 19th Regt. N. I. would march through this District, to Collect Supplies at Mellore for the use from the neighbouring Districts— Unfortu-
-nately when the late fire happened at that place— a large portion of these Articles were consumed— An Account of which I have the honor to forward & beg leave to recommend, that the Merchants be indemnified for the loss they have sustained—

Palany 30th July 1814— (Signed) R. Peter
Collr

To

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To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to inform you that the Zemindar of Ramnad yesterday paid into the Treasury at Madura the sum due above the 5,000 Pagodas allowed by Government to lay over to the present & ensuing fuslies -

I have therefore recalled the people sent to assume the Country & I now await your further orders -

Palany 31st July 1814 (Signed) R. Peter
Collr

To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to forward a Statement of such Accounts for Murramut as have reached the Kutcharee -

Within these few days I am happy to state some showers of rain have fallen, sufficient in some places, to enable the Inhabitants to proceed in their Cultivation which I regret to say is at present very backward from the want of water -

Palany 2d August 1814 - (Signed) R. Peter
Collr

To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue.

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to forward a Statement of Charges incurred for repairs up to the 31st Ultimo.

It is with much pleasure I inform you, that there has been a pretty general fall of rain throughout the District, which has enabled the Inhabitants at most places, to proceed in their Cultivation. and I have directed in consequence the Tapeldars to complete the works which they are at present about. & on no occasions to commence others without orders.

Ruttom 10th August 1814. (Signed) B. Peter
Collr.

To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue,

Gentlemen,

Having been allowed only to draw 9 Months Tent Allowance for last Fusly. I trust, I may be permitted to solicit once more,

a

a reconsideration of the length of time I was on tour during the Jusly - & to hope that I may yet be allowed to draw the whole Amount for the Jusly - or at all events, that my Assistant may - as he has been at a considerable expence, in making up a set of Tents &c -

Nellore 22d August 1814 (Signed) R. Peter Collr.

To the Officer Commanding
the Southern Division
of the Army -

Sir,

In consequence of the receipt of your letter of the 11th May last, I applied to the Officer Commanding Madura for a Havildars Guard (the usual one) to attend a feast at the Meenatchee's Pagoda, on the Morning of the 27th his reply to my letter, I have the honor to forward, & shall feel obliged by your giving a second order to that Officer, to comply with my future requisitions for Guards on occasions such as the above -

Nellore 30th August 1814 (Signed) R. Peter Collr.

To -

To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue,

Gentlemen,

Para 1st. I have the honor to forward a Statement of Measurement up to the 15th Instant—

2d. When I last addressed your Board the reports of the different Tahsildars on the state of their respective Talooks were as favorable, as they have since been unfavorable, of late no rain whatever has fallen, which is peculiarly unfortunate at this moment, as the crops now on the ground require, merely, a shower or two, to save them from perishing— The distress of the Talook (Shoorambore) in which I am at present, in consequence of the failure of the rains, is dreadful— there are now around me, no less than between one, and two thousand men, women, & Children, absolutely starving, & if some relief be not speedily offered to them, I see no chance of their escaping the most wretched of all ends— that of death by hunger— for they are all either too old, young or weak to labour, & their only dependance therefore for support, must be on the Charity

of

151 303

of the humane, or on the bounty of Government, which I am sure will not be denied them - The little assistance which is at present granted to them by private individuals, is too trifling for so many, but if I am permitted to distribute in addition amongst them, rice, to the small Amount of, from 10 to 15 Pagodas daily, for the next six weeks or two Months, it will save hundreds perhaps from perishing, and they will bless that Government, which could show such care & attention to their wants -

3rd. Those, who can labour, are, and will be employed, in useful works, and you may rest assured that my utmost exertions will be used, to prevent the liberality of Government being abused -

Nellore 30th. August 1814 - (Signed) R. Peter Collr.

To the President & Members of the Board of Revenue,

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to inform you that I have this day examined the Cash Chest, & found the Cash exactly correspond with the Amount Collections -

Madura 20th. Septr. 1814 - (Signed) R. Peter. Collr.

To

To the President and Members

of the

Board of Revenue.

Gentlemen,

In reply to your Secretary's letter of the 5th Instant I have the honor to forward Copy of a Letter addressed to your Secretary by Mr. Kinloch late Collector of Ramnad, as no orders appear from the records in this Office to have been received. I request to be favored with your instructions on the subject.

Dated 19th Octr 1807.

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

Madura 20th Septr 1814.

To the President and Members

of the

Board of Revenue.

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to forward a Statement of Merramut up to the 31st Ultimo.

I am happy to be enabled to state, that there has been a general fall of rain, since I last addressed your Board, & that

there

there has likewise been a considerable Quantity of water in the River for the last three or four days—

Madura 22nd Septr. 1814— (Signed) R. Peter Collr.

To the President & Members of the Board of Revenue,

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to forward a Statement of Murramut up to the 15th Ulto.—

Since I last addressed your Board, little rain has fallen— which indeed is not to be expected— as there is I trust sufficient water in most of the Tanks, to last till the Monsoon sets in—

Madura 1st Octr. 1814— (Signed) R. Peter Collr.

To the Civil Auditor Fort Saint George.

Sir,

Mr. Riddell, some time ago left

left this Station on leave of Absence, but as I received no intimation of the circumstance from your Office, or from the Gentleman himself, no Stoppages from his Salary, have as yet been made. I request therefore that you will be good enough to inform me, what Stoppages are to be levied, and I beg leave to suggest, that, in future, all Civil Servants quitting this Station, on leave, may be directed to acquaint me with the same, to prevent the possibility of retrenchments, appearing against me, on Account of Salary overdrawn

Madura 5th Octr 1814. (Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

To the Officer Commanding
Ramnad

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterdays date.

As the Application made by me, on the 10th April last, was to furnish (generally) Guards to the Salt Amildar for the purpose

of

of escorting Treasure to Madura – a Copy of that letter, would, I should imagine, be sufficient should it not however, & the Auditor General should deem a separate Application, in each Month necessary I shall have much pleasure in sending it –

Madura 14th Octr. 1814 (Signed) R. Peter Collr.

To the President and Members of the Board of Revenue,

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Secretary's letter under date the 11th July last, and in compliance to the orders therein conveyed have now the honor to transmit a Statement shewing the Collections in this District for the three preceding fuslies on Articles composing the petty commerce of the Country, a duty be levied on which is justly considered by your Board to occasion much

much inconvenience to the poorer Classes—

By the enclosed Statement it will be perceived that out of the long list of articles enumerated in your Boards letter, few Compara-tively, have been subject to Duty in this Collec-torate, and even on these with the exception of Turmeric & Garlic the Collections have been so very trifling that I perfectly concur in opinion with your Board that discontinuing the Duty (exclusive of Turmeric & Garlic) will be attended with much benefit and with little or no loss to the public Revenue—

The Duty on Turmeric & Garlic, which I have stated as exceptions to the indiscriminate abolishing of the tax on the petty Traffic of this District, is chiefly confined to a few Chowkeys in the Dindigul Province adjacent the Hills where these Articles are Cultivated to a considerable extent, and where I still think the present Duty may be continued on their exportation with much propriety, and unattended with any of the ill effects appre-

=hended

1154 309

-hended in the manner of collecting it-

The Apparent trifling loss this Arrangement will occasion to the public Revenue of this District must appear evident to your Board will not admit of a reduction taking place in its Sayer Establishment which is at present on a scale as limitted in regard to the number and pay of the Servants employed as I consider only adequate to perform the duties of this Department

Madeira 14th October 1814 (Signed) R. Peter Coll.r

To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue,

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to forward a Statement of Measurement up to the 30th September last -

Owing to the dry state of the Banks of the Tanks, several small ones have burst from the pressure of water which has come into them - I have therefore

been

been obliged to lay out small sums in repairing them - which will appear in the next Statement. There is a little water in the river - but no rain has fallen about this place -

Madura 17th October 1824 (Signed) R. Peter Coll.r

To the President and Members of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Para 1st I have the honor to forward Estimate of Moyenzabitahs and other charges for July 1824, for the Districts under my Charge.

2nd To the Huzzoor peons, I beg leave strongly to recommend an increase in their pay of ½ a Pagoda, as at present, they only receive 1½ Pagoda p Mensem, which I certainly do not think sufficient, when it is considered, that they are so frequently employed in situations of trust & consequence, on which account, people

Huzzoor Servants.

people of respectability must be selected to fill the situation - Tho' it is at all times my wish, to reduce my Moyenzabitah rather than increase it, yet it is, from a conviction, that people will act with strict honesty when they are properly remunerated for their labors, which induces me to solicit the present Augmentation of the Peons Allowances -

Madura District Servants.

3^d The only alterations I beg leave to recommend in the Talook Establishments of Madura, are, an additional Gomastah & five Peons to the Talook of Thoorrumboor, on Account of the great number of Villages and Hamlets in that Division, which renders the present Establishment not so Efficient as I could wish, without Assistance from the other Talooks, which cannot at all times be spared - and an additional Gomastah and five Peons to the Nuttum Talook, as I have included the Maghanl of Coashcourchee in that Division -

Dindigul District Servants

4th In the Dindigul Establishment, I merely wished to be allowed, an additional Gomastah & five peons, for the Toddycombo Division

Division, and for the same reasons, as above stated, for the Thoorroomboor Talook — This I hope will be granted, as I have not solicited the increase, without fully ascertaining the necessity of it —

Salt Dept.

5th Hitherto, the Servants employed as Canakpars at the Saltpans, have been people, residing in the Zemindaries of Ramnad and Shevagunga, & as from their being connected with people in the Neighbourhood of the Pans, I had reason to suppose, that they were concerned in the different thefts of Salt which were committed, I removed them, and appointed people from Madura on 1 Pagoda ℔ Mensem but as I have reduced their Number, the increase on the Moyengabitah of last year is only „ 22. 40. ℔ Mensem and 6 Pags. ℔ year, which I hope you will be pleased to sanction, as I could not meet with people who would go such a distance from their families, on a smaller Salary —

The

Choukey - 6th The receipts of the Choukeis during the last Fusly have been so satisfactory that I do not wish to make any further alterations in this Establishment, than an additional Gomastah, and four peons, to be attached to the Soosenciveehy Choukey to collect the duty from the Maghanum of Coashouchee, lately put under my Management - and an increase of 2 Pagodas to the Head Huzzoor Choukey Gomastah, that it may be something for the Junior Gomastahs to look forward to, if their conduct meets with Approbation -

Madura 19th Octr. 1814 (Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen

Para 1st I have the honor to forward a Jummah Bundobust of the whole of the Districts under my charge for Fusly 1223 -

2d. Since I have had charge of this district, season after season - & more especially, the last, has proved unfavorable to agriculture - so that the field for exertion, at least successful exertion has been very limited - but of this your Board must be so well aware, as well as of the present state of the Country, that it will be needless my expatiating on it here - I cannot however refrain from stating, it is a consolation to me to reflect, that whatever distress it has suffered they have been occasioned by circumstances, however much to be regretted, it was impossible for any thing human to avert, or to provide against, and not by any inattention to the Welfare of the people under my Management -

3d. In the Months of May & June in last year, the showers were as numerous, and as abundant as could be desired, from which I anticipated a Settlement which would have been highly pleasing to yr. Board, but

but the subsequent failure of the Monsoon disappointed my hopes, and has obliged me to Conclude a settlement, which, tho' much below my former expectations, yet, upon the whole I consider as favorable, as could be expected —

6th That you may form some Idea, of what the settlement would have been, had there been a continuation of the rains — I have only to remark that the extent of Cultivation to the 20th September 1810 Amounted to Cawns 64,700 – as 1/2 exceeding that of the preceding year to the same period by Cawns 20,789 – as 8¾ — The subsequent falling off in the extent of Cultivation is not attribu-table to any disinclination on the part of the Inhabitants to cultivate, but entirely to the failure of the periodical rains — if there was a doubt on the subject, I have only to mention the circumstance, that numbers of Ryots ploughed & sowed their Lands not only once & twice, but some even three and four times over, and in the end, and after all their exertions,

reaped

reaped no benefit from their labours, as the crops withered before they came to maturity — So complete a failure of the Monsoon was, I believe almost without example — the Country was more burnt up in December, than was ever known in March & April — Many of the Inhabitants were quitting the Madura District, and had it not been for the bounty of Government, some of the Talooks would scarcely have had a person remaining in them —

Vide Statement No. 2.

in No. 1 of P

Col. 4 Decrease	16,435.	9. 06.
Increase	2123	25. 33.
	14,311	29. 23.

5th. Tho' the total extent of Land Cultivated in Dindigul & Madura exceeds that of Fusly 1222 — yet the Amount Settlement falls short in the sum of St. P. 14311. f 29. c 23. which has been occasioned chiefly by the reductions on Account of Shavee, and partly by the Nunjah being less than that of the preceding year —

6th. That I might not be imposed upon as to the extent of Shavee, I appointed Moneygars, independent of the Talook Servants to examine it, & many Villages were examined

more

more than once to ascertain the correctness of the Accounts which had been sent to the Huzzoor - Nor have I either been guided in my remission by these accounts entirely - where I found an Inhabitant had lost only a small portion of his Cultivation - I considered the great increase in the price of Grain at the time, and made no remission; but where I found a poor Inhabitant had lost all, or a greater part, I, of course remitted the whole, and the total Amount which has been remitted in this manner is Star Pagodas

Vide Statement A & D. Col. 10 - 13436 " 37 " 30 -

Madura

7th Having received your instructions to introduce the Ryotwary System into Madura, I commenced and accomplished it without difficulty, finding the inhabitants very ready to accede to my wishes - The total settlement of this Zillah after deducting Shawree is St Pags - 70629 " 39 " 50

Vide Statements A & B Col. 24.	deducting Shawree is St Pags	70629 - 39 - 50
Col. 25.	Settlement of Fusly 1222	87065 - 4 - 34
Col. 27	Difference between Fuslies 1222 & 23	16435 - 9 - 56

8th On a reference to Column 10. in Statement A it will be remarked, that in Tirumungalum, Aunyoor, Thoorsomboor & Mellore, more than half of the Nunjah Cultivation perished for want of water - The cause of this, is that most of the Tanks in those Talooks are filled by the rain; and derive no advantage whatever from any water which may come into the river - What saved the Crops in Maudacolum & Sholavundan, was a small quantity of water coming down the Vyar which enabled the inhabitants in the neighbourhood to secure such a Quantity as to preserve their crops - Had not this fortunately occurred, the distress, bad as it was, would have been worse, as the whole of the Grain must inevitably have perished from want of water -

White

9th While proceeding in the Settle-
-ment, I received representations from the
inhabitants of several Villages, that the
Assessment on their Lands was too high, and
after a due examination into their represen-
-tations I considered it but just, as I had
received your permission to do so, to reduce
the Teerwah of several (a Statement of
which will be hereafter forwarded) and to
make them on a level with the neighbouring
Why these have hitherto paid a higher Assess-
-ment, than the other Villages, I know not,
as they do not possess advantages of Culti-
-vation in a greater degree than the others,
and by making this reduction, the Ryots
have Engaged to bring all the land of their
Villages under the plough, should the season
admit of their doing so, and I certainly
Anticipate considerable benefit from
the measure —

In

10th In some of the Talooks in which the Pauthee Cavel is collected, it in many instances proves very oppressive to the Inhabitants, on which Account I am desirous of bringing it to your Board's notice - The Pauthee Cavel which may be called a Tax was formerly paid to the Poligars for (nominally) watching their high ways &c. this was levied in former times in the most arbitrary manner by the Poligars from the Inhabitants, as the price of their desisting from plundering their Villages - the Heads under which it was collected are various, and are shewn in

Enclosure No. 1. Statement C and whether the seasons were bad or good, they were obliged to pay it, at the risk on their refusal, of being plundered - Since the Assumption of the Country, this has continued to be collected under the

head

head abovementioned - and this year it fell so heavy on some of the Inhabitants, that I was induced to remit a part to the Amount of Star Pagodas 345 - 42 - 77 collecting only according to the extent of their Cultivation and this even, was felt by some of them, and they assured me, that if this obnoxious tax was discontinued, they would readily agree to extend their Cultivation - I would there-fore strongly recommend its being abolished its Amount is small and would relieve the inhabitant from (to him) a heavy burthen - nor will this request, I trust, be thought unreasonable when we con-sider that the inhabitants already pay, it is to be presumed, a fair Assessment on their lands - the collecting therefore such a Tax, can be looked upon, in no other light, than a double Assessment, for,

Vide Statement C.

for, from the produce of their lands, this must be paid - which must evidently im-poverish the Ryot, and prevent his increasing his Cultivation, which his increased means would allow of his doing, had he not to pay this Tax - In former times this Tax was necessary perhaps, and was paid solely with the view of securing their property - Now no such necessity exists, from the wise measures of Government - Surely such a Tax should also cease to exist, and I sincerely hope to receive your orders to discontinue the Collecting of it in future - A wish to render every justice to the inha-bitants under my charge, as well as a conviction that it will prove beneficial to the Circar, has induced me to be thus earnest in the desire of having this Tax abrogated -

These

11th There is likewise another Circum-
-stance which I am desirous of mentioning
to your Board, as it may not perhaps have
been brought to your notice before, and as
I consider the Inhabitants of a number of
Villages to labor under disadvantages —
which it may be possible to rectify, it is,
that of the greater part of the best ground,
being claimed by Brahmins as Meerassi,
& which, owing to their being unable to
Cultivate & unwilling to allow others to
do so, remains waste, evidently to the
loss of the Circar —

12th By the Regulations on an In-
-habitant refusing to receive his Pottah and
to give his Moochelkah, the land can be
granted to another for one year, but
whether he can retain it as long as he
pleases to cultivate it, I have my doubts —

I

I should therefore wish to know your Board's Sentiments on the subject, for it would be a hardship to the inhabitant, if after clearing the Ground, and bringing it into a proper state for Cultivation, he should be liable to lose it, on its being claimed by those who call themselves Meerasdars - In this District a very considerable extent of Land (and the best too) remains waste, because it is not the pleasure of the person or persons who are mostly Brahmins) to bring it under the plough, or perhaps in some instances, from an inability to do so, which must evidently impair the Revenue - This year, I have given Puttoms to the Inhabitants who are all most anxious to obtain the Ground, to cultivate what Quantity they please, offering it in the first

instance

325

instance to the people who claim it as Meerasy, & on their rejecting it, or refusing to pay the Teerwah on it, I have granted it, as I said before to the other Ryots.—

13th In the Jummabundy Statement now forwarded I have shown as well as I could ascertain, the present state of the Population of this District, and it was my intention to have contrasted it with that of Mr Hurdis's, but from the imperfect state of the records in this Office, I have been obliged to forego it. From the enormous number of Deaths, the decrease must be considerable, and it must yet take some years before the Country can be thoroughly restored to its former state of prosperity.—

14th For the present year I have been obliged to distribute a larger sum

for

for Tuccavey than has been usual, but the impoverished state of the people, owing to the three last wretched seasons, & the severe losses which they have sustained in their Cattle from drought & disease, rendered it absolutely necessary — and that as little imposition might take place as possible, and that both the lower inhabitants might benefit equally with the head, by the advances, I had them in every instance I could, paid before me, as I proceeded in my Circuit —

in Statem.t A
Col. 12

15th In this Tallah, I distributed 26,231 — Pullyams —

Dindigal
vide Statement
D, E, & F.

16th In the Province of Dindigul I am happy to say, the extent of Tuccavee has not been so great as I apprehended from so complete a failure of the Monsoon —

It.

163 3271

…10. in D. It amounts only to 1721. ^{pa} 27. ^{f} 49. ^{c} and the final settlement exceeds that of Fusly 1222

…1.24 in D. in the sum of 2123. ^{pa} 25. ^{f} 33. ^{c} In this province I likewise introduced the Ryotwary System agreeably to your orders, and during the

…1.12 in D. settlement, distributed 12200 Puttayms. The permission you have granted me of reducing the Tierwah, where I may find it necessary, will I am sure, be attended with the most beneficial effects, and I trust, my next report will demonstrate, that I am not too sanguine in my expectations of the advantages derivable from the measure.

17th As in my late Circuit I was nearly over the whole of the District, I took every opportunity of examining the Tanks, Watercourses &ca and I found many requiring repair, from the want of which, Land to a considerable extent remained

un-

uncultivated, I thought no time should be lost in putting them in order - the sum laid out on this Account is S.Rs 6664..Pc 56..C 65 a portion of which will be repaid by the Inhabitants agreeably to their Kararnamahs, I therefore trust, that this step will be approved of -

Vide G. 18th G is a Jummah Khurtbundy of the six Estates in possession of the Zemindars, amounting to S.Rs 17,844..Pc 25..C 70 - Total 35 Estates S.Rs 74,000..Pc 41..C 31 -

19th On the 10th July last, I expressed a wish to include the six Estates of Iyaloor &ca with the 29 already Assumed, and unless I receive your orders on the contrary, I shall in future consider them as Assumed, and include them accordingly -

Vide H 20th H is a Detailed Jummah

&

164 329

Khistbundy of the whole Zemindaries, a-
-mounting to Sts. 250,993 .. f. 17 .. c. 76 –

Vide I & J.

21st I & J are Jummah & Khist-
-bundies of the different Hills Amounting
to Sts. 1030 .. f. 13 .. c. 51 –

22nd For fusly 1223 the Cardamom
Hills were kept under Aumanie, on
account of the dispute with the Travan-
-coreans, and the Total Cardamoms &ca
collected during the fusly, amount to
Tolams 1337 – Pollams 29¾ – or Can. 50 – Mds 2 – Vis 7¾ exclusive
of other Articles –

Vide J.

23rd I was induced to grant
the rent of the Palaney Hills for three
years, on account of few people offering
to take it for one year, and then at
so low a rate, that it would have caused
a loss to the Circar – besides by granting
the

the rent for one year only. I have found from experience that a Renter makes the most of his time, and ruins the inhabitants by his exactions - Whereas, by giving it for a term of years, it will be the Renters interest to conciliate the people, & to render the Hills as productive as possible -

Vide K & L. 24th K & L. exhibit the Gross Collections of the Sayer & Salt, amounting to $73,739^{Rs.} .. 44^{p} .. 26^{c}$ making an increase in these branches of Revenue on last years Collections, which were the highest ever realized in this District of $13,323^{Rs.} .. 22^{p} .. 20^{c}$ -

25th In the Sayer Department the chief increase has been occasioned by the measures which have been adopted for levying the duties on Beetle and

Tobacco,

Tobacco, & to prevent their being smuggled, and it is with much pleasure, I take this opportunity of Assuring your Board, that Mr. Harrison's attention to this Department, under whose Management I have placed it, has been great, and that he deserves much credit for his exertions—

26th In the Salt Department there has been a small falling off; this must be attributed to the great drought & scarcity which have pervaded these districts, and which have certainly prevented Merchants from resorting to the Pans as frequently as they were accustomed, as they preferred trading in a petty way in Grain &ca Rather than in Salt—

Vide, M— 27th M is a Statement of

Abkary

Abkarry, amounting to 6010^{pa}.. 29.. 20 - a sum less by 1510^{sp}.. 6^{p}.. 33^{c} - than the rents of Fusly 1221. which has been occasioned chiefly by the difficulty in realizing the rent from the inhabitants in Ramnad & Shevagunga; & partly by the great drought & scarcity -

Vide **N** 28th **N** is a Statement of Stampt paper sold, during the Fusly, amounting to 2110^{sp} - 11^{p}.. 50^{c} -

Vide **O** 29th **O** are Abstract Statements of Jummah of the whole of the districts under my charge, amounting to $4,07395^{spa}$.. 20^{pc}. less than fusly 1222. by - - - 7237 - 7 - 72.

Dedeect supposed Amount of Cardamoms after discharging the Inhabitants share &ca - - - } 2,648 - 43 - 43.

making a total decrease of only - - - - - - - } 4,600 - 9 - 29.

which

which, of the great drought &ca. be recollected, will, I trust, be considered as fair a settlement as could be expected under so many disadvantages —

Madura 30th. Octr. 1814 } (Signed) R. Peter Collr.

To the President and Members of the Board of Revenue.

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to forward a Statement of Murramut to the 15th. Instant —

The people are now, merely employed in completing the repair of those Tanks, which they had commenced, & of those, which had lately burst — A little rain has fallen, within these few days, which the Punjah required in some places — & from the present

ap-

appearance of the sky - I sincerely hope we may look forward to a favorable Monsoon -

Madura 31st Oct. 1814 - (Signed) R. Peter Collr.

To the President and Members of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to forward a Statement of Murramut, to the 31st Ultimo -

The weather within the three last weeks, has taken so many changes, that I scarcely know, what opinion to form of it - In some of the Talooks, rain is much wanted, & if it does not fall shortly, the Cultivation, I fear, will suffer considerably - Present Appearances, certainly seem, to indicate a speedy fall of rain & it will give me great pleasure to have it to report to your

Board

Board - that I have not been disappointed in my expectations -

Madura 17th Novr 1814. (Signed) R. Peter Collr

To the President and Members of the Board of Revenue -

Gentlemen,

Para 1st I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Circular letter under date the 16th of August last, calling upon the several Collectors to institute a detailed examination of their Sayer Accounts, and to forward as soon as practicable, Tariffs which they may deem calculated to encrease the General Inland Trade and prosperity of their respective Districts -

2nd In the enclosed Tariffs for the district of Madura & Dindigul

I.

I have judged it necessary to insert the Cloths & Drugs the Manufacture & produce of these districts only on which alone the Sayer Revenue is composed, all Articles the Manufacture & produce of other Districts must necessarily previous to their entering this District have paid the general inland duty, that in revising the Tariff it would have been totally useless to have included them, as the prices at which the Articles are entered in the old Tariff will fully answer the purpose of comparing them with the Rowanahs, by which they may be accompa-
-nied —

3.rd Tobacco, the growth of the Dindigul province, forms one of the great
sources of this branch of Revenue in
Exports of this Collectorate, the duty to

be

be levied on which has already been provided for, in Regulation VI of 1812.— my chief attention has therefore been directed in re-vising the Tariff to ascertain with the greatest accuracy the duty I may deem best qualified to be imposed on Cloths the Manufacture of this District— In the Tariff I have now the honor to transmit for the Approval of your Board I have inserted as minutely as possible the various descriptions of Cloths with their present wholesale prices at the place of Manufacture & the alteration which I have considered necessary to make in some, will I have every reason to expect, tend to their more general Exportation.—

4th With regard to the levying of a duty on the Rape seed, I think it

might

might be easily Effected - It is generally Estimated that 10 Measures of Seed will produce 2 Measures of oil; if therefore a Duty of 3/2 Pag.s be collected on a Garce of seed it will be about Equivalent to the 5 p.Cent Duty levied on the oil -

5th The Sayer Regulations enacted in the year 1812 - I have found in every respect well calculated as far as regards this District, for levying a general inland Duty on its commerce -

6th In my letter of 14th Oct.r last which I had the honor to address your Board I fully stated that I did not apprehend that discontinuing the duty on the few Articles composing the petty commerce of this District would be

attended

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attended with scarcely any loss to the pub-
lic Revenue, and that in consequence I
did not deem it expedient to reduce the
present Sayer Establishment which I
considered only adequate to perform the
duties of that Department—

Madura 30th Novr 1814 (Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue—

Gentlemen,

Para 1st On the 25th & 26th of last
Month one of the most violent Storms
ever recollected by the oldest person—arose—
the mischief done around Madura and
indeed Inland altogether, has not been
so great as on the Sea Coast—Some

Cattle

Cattle have been lost, and I regret to say several Children who attended them were found dead from the severity of the weather - but on the coast the sea rose to so asto-nishing a height, as to overwhelm every thing near it - Most of the Villages in its vicinity have been nearly swept away and a number of lives I fear has been lost; - Not a Doney escaped the general wrack, and the losses sustained by the diffe-rent Merchants must be great.

2d The reports from the Salt pans, leave me little reason to hope that much Salt has escaped - I have however lost no time in sending people to ascertain as correctly as possible what Quantity may still remain which I shall take the

earliest

earliest opportunity of acquainting your Board with –

3rd During the Storm & immediately after it, a considerable Quantity of rain fell; but on the fall on the Hills must have been immense, as more water came into the River in one night, than has been known for the last thirty years –

Madura 5th Decr. 1819 – (Signed) R. Peter Collr.

To the Mint Committee

Fort Saint George

Gentlemen,

Para 1st I have the honor to forward a Statement of Coins received into the Treasury in payment of Revenue during Jusly 1820 –

2nd In this District, the new Coinage of Rupees, half & quarter Rs. and two

annah

small pieces, has not, as yet, obtained any great Extent of Currency – The Amount may be estimated at about 10,000 Pagodas, but if I were permitted to call in all the Cully & Shooly fan? and the Copper Cash, the Coinage of these provinces, it would greatly increase, and be of the highest advantage, to all classes of people – for by having one general Coinage throughout the Country, it would do away, in a great measure, the necessity of Shroffs in the Bazars, who, from being mostly men of property, and having a Command of Cash, can now vary the Exchange at pleasure, to the loss of individuals –

Madura 5th Decr. 1814 – (Signed) R. Peter Collr.

To the Acting Pay Master to the Force,

Assembling in the South. Division

Sir,

Having been directed by the Acting Accountant General, to hold in readiness

at

at Romnad a Sum of Money sufficient for three Months Subsistence for the troops now assembling for Service in the Southern Division I shall feel obliged by your giving me early intimation, of the Amount you may require for that purpose - that it may be ready for you, on your Arrival at the Station above mentioned -

Madura 4th Jany 1815 - (Signed) R. Peter Collr.

To the Collector of Tanjore -

Sir,

I had the honor to receive your letter of the 2d by Express early this Morning, & have no further Communication to make than a request, that you will be good enough to inform me, when the Treasure may be expected to reach Romnad, that I may have people in readiness at that Station to receive it - Orders have already been given to afford every assistance to the Detachment escorting it - & I have sent Peons to Conduct

Veerasuvengy Muldum
Strepaurlagoody
Sevepatnam
Ramnad –

Conduct it through the District by the route inserted in the Margin –

Madura 4th Jany. 1815 – (Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

To the President and Members
of the Board of Revenue –

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to forward a final Statement of expences incurred in distributing rice to the poor people in Madura & Thoorroomboor –

Previous to the receipt of your Secretary's letter, I had given orders, that the distribution should cease on the 31st of last Month –

Madura 6th Jany. 1815 – (Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

To the President and Members
of the Board of Revenue –

Gentlemen,

I have to acknowledge the
receipt

receipt of your Secretary's Letter of the 10th Novr last, I have now the honor, to transmit, Replies to the Queries, which accompanied it—

How has Meerassy right hitherto been recognized and respected, where Meerasdars were not the Renters—?

In Dindigul & Madura, the Meerasdars are termed Karaykarens— Should they not be renters, their right, would, nevertheless, be respected and they would receive their Established shares, for the Lands which should be Cultivated—

Does Meerassy right extend to Waste Land?

Meerassy right does extend to Waste Lands and if these Lands are brought under Cultivation, even by a Renter the Meerasdar is entitled to his share—

3d Is Meerassy right forfeited for ever when Cultivation is for a single season discontinued—?

Meerassy right is not forfeited, by Cultivation being discontinued for a single season—

Whose

4th Where Meerassy right exists has it always been respected by the Officers of Government in framing the Jummabundy—?	It has been usual to respect Meerassy right—
5th If not respected by the Officers of Government has it nevertheless been respected by the people themselves—?	Where Karassharens do exist, they are respected by the Inhabitants—
6th In how many Villages of the District does Merassy right exist—?	Meerassy right exists in 155 Villages in Dindigul & in 715. Villages in Madura—
7th In how many Villages is there no Meerassy right—?	There is no Meerassy right in 26 Villages of Dindigul & 163 Villages in Madura—
8th How many Meerassdars are there in the District—?	There are 3878 Meerassdars in Dindigul & 6,422 in Madura—
9th How many Cultivators are there—?	There are 7,632 Cultivators in Dindigul & 27,394 in Madura—

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What is the average Annual Value of Meerasy right in proportion to the produce?

The Average is about one tenth of the produce—

[1]1t. What is the Average Annual value of Meerasy right in proportion to the Revenue—?

The Average Value is about one fourth—

Is Meerasy right sold—?

It is, sometimes, but very seldom— & when a Karay Karen is desirous of parting with his Karay he must in the first instance, offer it to his relations,— if not required by them, to the other Karay Karens of the village— and if refused by them (with their consent) to any other person—

13th. How many years purchase of its annual value is Meerasy right generally sold for—?

The Meerasy right is so seldom sold, that it is difficult to ascertain, for what number of years, of its Annual value, it is sold for

- for it of course, depends greatly on the description of soil, & its produce, and may be esti-mated, at from 10 to 20 years -

14th What is the greatest, the least, & the average Annual value of the Meeras of one Meerasdar -?

The greatest is Estimated at 60 Chuckrums - the lowest at 3 Ch. & the average at from 20 to 25 Ch. -

15th Do Meerasdars attach any other besides a pecuniary value to their Meerassy -?

Their Hereditary right & influence in the Village, are considerations of attach-ment, independent, of the pecuniary value, of their Meerassy right -

16th Where there is no Mee-rassy right, is there any other tie by which particular individuals are attached to particular fields & what is it -?

Where Karaykarers do not exist, particular lands are held, by Inhabitants, on a right, of having been at the expence of bringing them under Cultivation for a series of years; and tho' such Lands, are considered as attached to them, yet they have

have, in no instance, a right to dispose of them by sale, or give them away in charity in the same manner, as the Kerayhkarers are entitled to do.

17th Where there is no Meerasy right, has it been usual for the Ryots to remove from one Village to another, and, has their removal depended on their own choice or that of the Collector?

Ryots can move from one Village to another at pleasure - but not until they have discharged their Kists - Should there be any Balance against them, they are required to remain in the Village, till the Amount is liquidated -

These Queries do not relate to these Districts -

24th How many of the Renters who are not Meerasdars were Renters under the Triennial Lease?

In those Villages where Meerasy right existed, all the Renters were Meerasdars, and in those Villages where no Meerasy right existed the Head Inhabitants were the Renters -

25th Were the Renters in any Village, merely the representa-tives of the Meerasdars at large & only responsible jointly with them—?

In no Village where there are Meerasdars, were the Renters the representatives of them—

26th Would it be practicable to frame a Village Settlement in which the Renters should be merely the representatives of the Meerasdars at large & Renters on their behalf—?

It would be difficult, if not impracticable—as the Meerasdars, would not be responsible for the Renters—

27th Where the Renters were not merely the representatives of the Meerasdars according to what rule, is the produce divided between the Cultivating Ryot, the Meerasdar & the Renters, and at what propor-tion do they respectively reap the benefit of a good Crop & sustain the loss of a bad one—?

Where the Renters may not be the Meerasdars, they have only to receive the Melwarom or Circars share, according to the established customs in each Village—either in Kind or money—and the profit or loss would be borne by them, & not by the Meerasdar— The Circars share is Estimated at 2/5th of the produce, 1/5th is deducted for Seed, labor, &ca & the remaining 2/5th go to the Cul-

2. 175 A 355

Cultivator, out of which he pays 1/4 as the Karay Karens share —

28. Is the Renter to receive the whole advantage afforded by the Waste Land or is he to share it with the Meerassdar?

If Waste Land is Cultivated, the Renter, can only claim, the Circars share, & not the share of the Karay-Karers —

Madura 10th January 1815 }

Signed R. Peter Collr

To the President and Members of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to reply to your Secretary's letter, desiring to know, the rates of Assessment on Lands in Dindigul, prior to survey as well as to state thro' what Agency that Assessment was collected —

In almost every Division the Assessment on Punjah Lands (for the Punjah was received in kind) varied as did the Measurement; so that to ascertain

-certain the exact Assessment of each Village, would be a difficult task, if not, an im-practicable one, at this moment — One Circum-stance however, appears certain, that it was fixed, more with reference to the Grain, pro-duced on the soil, and to the people who cultivated it, than to the class of soil itself —

Vide Mr Parish's Report - 24th April 1808.

In some Villages the measurement was (nominally as the survey Accounts will shew) a Wire of 64 fathoms in length — in others, of Chains from 25 to 34 fathoms, and in some, according to the Quantity of seed sown —

Nos 1. 2. 3. & 4.

In the Accompanying Statements, I have endeavored to shew, as correctly as the Accounts will admit of, the Teerwah Col-lected in four Villages prior to the survey and what was fixed afterwards, when the classification of the soil took place —

No 2. Col. 4. Col. 6

From these it will be perceived, that in Gungoowarputty, in fusly 1210, according to the former Mode of Estimate 1780 Ks. 4½ ?? were cultivated & bore a Teerwah of 1165 chs. 9 fs. 6¾ as

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which on Measurement by Survey was found

Col. 7. to contain 3214. $\overset{lls}{}$ $\overset{at}{}$ ½ bearing a Teerwah of

Col. 9. 1770. $\overset{cls}{}$ 5. $\overset{f}{}$ 3¼ $\overset{at}{}$ making an increase in the

former Measurement of 1425.. 12 $\overset{at}{}$ and in the

Col 10. Assessment, of 454.. $\overset{chs}{}$ 5. 14¼ $\overset{at}{}$ -

From this Statement it might be concluded that the teerwah collected former on certain Lands, was higher than what was fixed by the Survey - but this was not actually the case, - for though the Assessment was nominally on one Kooly - it was discovered in many instances, to contain two, and sometimes, three Koolies -

The distinction to teerwah which is shewn in Gungoowarputty did not exist in every Village - In some an Assessment of, from 10 to 26 & 20. fanams ꝑ Kooly on Bagayet was levied, & on Lands called Gettypunjah which produced Cholum, Cumboo, Raggy &ca of from 13 to 16 fan; and a much lower teerwah, on Land which produced Gram and pulse -

Throughout the province this irregu-
-larity

-rarity in the assessment & measurement existed, which as I before stated renders it very difficult at this day to ascertain with precision the actual assessment of the lands of each Village as it varied so much in each but I trust that the Statements now transmitted will suffice to shew how the increase of Revenue was derived —

Vide Mr. Parish's Report —

The mode of collecting the Revenue was the same as obtained in the Native Govt. thro' the Nattamkars & Curnoms; and at the time of the Settlement, it was usual to add a small increase in each Village, on the Settlement of the preceding Year, and if the extent of Cultivation fell short of the Amount fixed, the difference was collected under the heads of Pillostursie or pasturage Land —

Madura 10th January
1814

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

To

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To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen

I have the honor to inform You that I have this day received charge of these districts from Mr. Cherry together with the Amount of Cash in the Treasury for which my receipts have been passed—

Madura 17th. May 1815

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Having been unavoidably detained at the Presidency beyond the period of the leave originally granted to me, I request the Board will have the goodness to procure for me an extension until the period of my arriving in my District, which was this day—

Madura
17th. May 1815.

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

To

To the Officer Commanding the 1. Division
of the Army

Sir,

Having Assumed the Temp. of Ramnad, a Guard will be required to protect the Cash Chest at the Head Kuchares may I therefore request the favor of Your directing the Officer Commanding that Station to furnish such a Guard as You may deem fit, to protect from 15 to 20,000 Pagodas, or perhaps some times more at the above Kuchares in the Fort of Ramnad—

Sholavundan 4th June 1815 (Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

To the Officer Commanding
Ramnad

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your letter of the 1st of June—
Had You stated to the Acting Collector, (which would have been the regular mode of proceeding) the trouble that was occasioned by the intoxication of Your Sepoys, from
the

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the Renter disposing of Arrack to them, He would, I have not the smallest doubt, have checked it, as much as possible; but Your putting a Guard over the Shop of a person, who is Authorized by the Regulations to dispose of Arrack, cannot, I think, be but considered irregular. I hope therefore, that You will see the necessity of withdrawing it —

Sholawundan, 4th June 1815. (Signed) A. Peter Collr

To the President and Members of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Dispatched 28th May

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Secretary's letter of the 25th of May last — I beg to state, that I did not reply to Your Secretary's letter of the 11th April 1814 — as I did not consider the building which is occupied by my Kucharee of that description of which Your Board required a report —

Of this building I have now the honor to send a plan, which was taken by one of the Engineers Maistries, who was sent for

for from Trichinopoly by Mr Cheney with a description, in the form forwarded with Your letter of the 11th April 1814—

It is supposed to have been erected about 200 Years ago— for a Kucharee, but at the time Mr Hurdis took possession of it, it would appear, that [illegible] was occupied by Brahmins— It is an unfit place for an Office of the kind, there being no Apartment for the records &ca but as I shall report shortly fully on the subject, I shall defer for the present making further remarks—

Sholavundan 4th June 1815— (Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

To the President and Members
of the Board of Revenue—

Gentlemen,

In reply to Your Secy's letter of the 9th March last, I have the honor to inform You, that no public building is occupied either by my Asst. or myself—

Sholavundan 4th June 1815— (Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

To

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To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to forward Pla[ns] of the buildings, enumerated in the List which accompanied Mr. Secretary Wood's letter, dated the 27th January last.

Plan No. 1. or building 11. in the list transmitted, is the Sepoys Barrack its dimen[sions] are laid down in the Plan, it is built of Brick & Mud, & tiled, and is situated, on the South, 119 feet, and on the West, 136 feet, from the ramparts — the N. W. part of the building faces the street passing near the ramparts, and on the East, is a narrow street formed by Houses on the North and South sides.

Plan 2. or 5. the Granary is nothing more than a flat stone building or Mundapum supported on Stone Pillars; the North & South ends are enclosed by Mud walls, and the Centre is a street called *Sunnathee veethee. On the West is Meenatchee Pagoda and a street called *Chittray veethee — on the East a street called *Auvanee veethee, and on the North & South are Houses.

Plan No. 3. or Building 11. the Garrison

[...] respectful term [...] presence & veethee street; or street in [the] presence of the [...]wanny.

[...] April feast street.

[...] August feast street.

Garrison Hospital - this is likewise a flat stone building or Mundagom supported on stone pillars the middle range is enclosed by Mud walls; in front, on the East is the street, called *Chittray veethee & Meenatchee Pagoda; on the South is a narrow bye-street which leads to the Main street on the west called *Auvance veethee, and on the North are Houses; the building in rear of the Hospital was formerly occupied for the Arrack Godown and is greatly out of order -

Plan No 4. or Buildings No. 1 & 2 are little thatched huts erected with Mud walls, for the use of the Guards at the different Gates; the thatching is in a decayed & ruinous state -

Plan 5. or No 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. & 10. This is called Mungamals palace, formerly filled with stores, but in which the Zillah prisoners are at present confined - As this building is under the charge of the Magistrate, it is presumed that it has already been reported upon - On the North & South, are Main streets, on the west is a narrow bye street, and on the East is a House & Compound belonging to the late Conductor Burling -

Sholavundan 7th June 1815.

Signed R. Peter
Coln

To

To the Officer Commanding the South. Division
of the Army—

Sir,

I have to request that You will be so good as to order a sufficient Guard to attend at my Treasury Cutcherry at Madura as Early as possible to Escort 100,000 or 120,000 Pagodas to the Presidency—

lavundan 10th June 1815— (Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

To the President and Members
of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

In my letter of the 5th Decr. 1814 I reported the dreadful storm which had taken place on the 25th & 26th of the preceding Month, and that from the reports which I had received from the Salt pans, I had little reason to hope that much Salt had escaped— In reply to this letter Your Board stated that You considered a personal investigation necessary & Mr. Cherry who shortly after took charge of the district during my absence on Leave at the Presidency, proceeded thither in consequence, and made the investigation required— On Measuring the different heaps which remained, the Quantity found as I expected

was

vide Col. 8. was inconsiderable comparatively, and is shewn in the Accompanying Statement, as is likewise the

vide Col. 13 quantity which has been rendered unfit for use & which I have therefore sent people to destroy.

Had Godown's been built for the reception of the Salt, they would have been of little use unless erected at some distance from the shore, for the sea rose to so tremendous a height as to sweep away every thing near it.

Sholavundan 12th June 1815. (Signed) R. Peter Collr

To the President and Members of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Secretary's letter of the 22d May forwarding for my information, Copy of Your Board's proceedings, under date the 20th April last, relative to my Moyenzabitah Statements for fuslies 23 & 24 & acquainting me, that the Right Honorable the Governor in Council had been pleased to Sanction the Actual Charges for Fusly 1223 & those Estimated for 24 & calling my attention to Para's 9th 10th & 12th

Exers

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Every attention shall be in future paid to Para 9th & 10th. With regard to 12th. I beg leave to state, the utter impossibility of my being able to dispense, with the Services of the Resauldar & Peons formerly, as it was my wish to reduce my Establishment to the utmost, discharged 20 Peons, which I have subsequently had reason to feel the inconvenience of, greatly as their duties are so numerous. Guards are required for the protection of the Records in the Kucharee, to attend the Collr on his Circuit. to escort money from the Talooks. in short, there is not a duty of a Revenue Nature, in which they are not at times employed. If I could possibly do without them, I would not hesitate in recommending their dismissal but as they are so useful a Corps, I hope to obtain Your Board's Sanction for their continuance.

Cureacolum 18th June 1815. (Signed) R. Peter Collr

To the President and Members of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to inform You that I examined the Cash Chest on the 1st & 15th Instant

Instant, and found the amount of Cash correspond with the Collections —

Perreacalum 19th June 1815 (Signed) R. Peter Collr

To the Post Master General

Sir Fort Saint George

I have the honor to reply to the four different points referred to, in the orders of Government, which were transmitted by You on the 30th April last, and to forward a sketch of the route of the Tappal, shewing the particular stations, of the runners respectively with the distances between each station —

† It is sent separately by Tappal.

In this sketch, I have only laid down the stages of the runners who are paid from this Office — From Madura to Palamcottah they are paid by the Collector of that District who will of course, in his sketch of the route, commence from Madura as I have from Trichinopoly —

Point 1st Whether the number of runners, and the time of running are in all instances proportioned to the distance; Whether either of them might not admit of being reduced, or whether an

In this District the number of runners has been proportioned as nearly as possible to the distance and situation of Villages — they will not

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Encrease of runners might in some cases serve to reduce the time of running?

not admit of a decrease, nor do I consider an increase necessary, as the time of running is in general good, & when it does vary it has invariably been owing to the state of the weather, or from the Mails being overloaded with the contents of the Bangy which proceeds no further Southward than Trichinopoly and if an Augmentation was made, the whole of the stages must be altered, which would cause considerable inconvenience to some of the runners by being posted at stages remote from Villages, where no dependance could be placed on their being ready to receive the Tappal, as they may have quitted their stations to procure provisions &c, which would cause greater delay than the mere circumstance of the runners having to proceed an Extra Mile or two.

Point 8. Whether there are any constant or occasional impediments to the progress of the Mails, such as swamps, rivers,

The Tappal from Trichy to Madura is occasionally stopped by the Vygay river, which runs close

or Nullahs, which might admit of being easily avoided or obviated-?

× Vide Sketch-

vide Statement No. 1 Amounting to Rs. 631 43 51

close to the Fort of Madura but very frequently indeed by the Paulaur, a small narrow tho' rapid river near Tellapully which is filled by the rains from the Hills, and comes down so suddenly after a small fall of rain as to detain the Mail, sometimes, for many hours- A Bridge might easily be thrown across it, at a small expence, as the Accompanying Statement will show- The Vygay is down so seldom, & is generally so short a time impassable, that I do not see the necessity of ever recommending a Boat to be kept up, for the crossing of the Mails, as it is very rarely indeed, that they cannot be conveyed across by Elephants-

The route from Madura to Ramnad & Dindigul is intersected with many Nullahs, or Watercourses, but none that detain the Tappal long- The runners are likewise obliged to cross the Vygay twice in going to Ramnad and once to Dindigul-

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Point 3d. Whether the Checks in force are generally effectual in preventing any unnecessary delay in the dispatch of the Mails, and any Embezzlement of the Revenue derived from the Post Office?	I consider the present checks in force generally effectual. If the slightest doubt is entertained in either case an Enquiry is instantly instituted.
Point 4th. Whether You are aware of any mode of increasing that Revenue?	I am not

Pereacolum 14th. June 1815.

Signed R. Peter
Colr.

To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Secretary's letter of 5th. of June, transmitting a list of public Native servants who have been declared incapable, of ever again serving the Company & desiring that their Names & places of abode, with the sentence passed on them by the Governor in Council may be written on Europe paper in the Native Language & affixed on a Conspicuous part of the Kucharee.

Dispatched 13th

As I have not yet received the sentence passed by the Governor in Council — I shall

shall be obliged, by being furnished with a Copy of it - when Your instructions shall be obeyed -

Perrenzolium 20th June 1815 — Signed A. Peter Collr.

To the Post Master General

Fort Saint George

Sir,

Para 1st — I have the honor to forward 3 statements of the rates of Postage levied at the three different Post Offices Vizt. Madura, Ramnad & Dindigul - under my charge, agreeably to the Form which was transmitted with Your letter of May last

No. 1. 2. 3.

2nd — In 1812, as I conceived the rates of postage at these stations to be very irregular, I applied on the 28th September, to the Post Master General for a corrected table of them; the Table furnished me, shew'd, the rates paid at Madras only - I therefore corrected the old Table as well as my information of the distances would allow of, and have continued since, to receive postage as is exhibited in the Statements now forwarded -

under date the 1st July 1813 -

3rd — In no instance I believe has the payment of postage on the delivery of a letter

bearing

bearing postage, been dispensed with - if it has, the postage would be superscribed on the letter & the amount collected, at the station, to which it was transmitted -

4th If a Table of postage for the out stations could be completed at the General Post Office, and forwarded to the different Post Masters, it would be very desirable - as it would be the means of correcting that irregularity which at present exists in the rates of Postage, at the different stations -

Dereacolum 22d June 1815 - (Signed) R. Peter Collr

To the President and Members of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Para 1st I have the honor to forward Replies to the Queries, which accompanied Your Secretary's letter of the 17th April last -

2d Since the receipt of Your instructions, the whole of the Kucherie Servants have been so busily employed in preparing Accounts for the Settlement, that I have not been able to ascertain, correctly, what Documents are

required

required to complete the English records; but as I have reason to think, that many papers, which relate to Dindigul in particular, are wanting; I shall, on my return from my circuit, forward to Your Board, a List of such as I may possess, with a request, that You will be good Enough to furnish me with whatever may be deficient — In the interim, I have to request Your permission to Employ an Extra English Writer for three or four Months, to bring up what records there are to the present date —

3rd The Kucharee, tho' certainly Water-proof, is an old building, erected 200 Years ago, and is, to say the least of it — a most unsuitable building for a Hoozoor Kucharee — one side is completely open, and may be entered at all hours — There is no proper place for the native records, they are deposited in Boxes, or rather large Baskets covered with leather, and on shelves placed around the room — I am very desirous of having a new Kucharee erected, but as Your Board considered the Estimate forwarded by me

on

on the 27th August 1813. too high, I could wish that the Engineer at the Residency be requested to draw out a Plan and Estimate for one; which, when furnished, can be executed by the Superintending Engineer of the Division — In the Fort there is only one House, which would, in any way, answer the purp[illegible] of a Kucharee, & that is, the one denominated, the Commanding Officers; which is in such a ruinous state at present, as to require in the repair, nearly as large a sum as the erecting of a new building would cost —

4th. There are several old Quarters besides, within the Fort, falling into decay, if these were disposed of by Public Auction, the proceeds from the sale, would I think, be sufficient to defray the Expences of a new Cutcherry —

[illegible]erreacolum 24th June 1815 — Signed R. Peter Collr.

English Correspondence & Records.

Q.

Who has charge of the English records?

A

The Record keeper (an English Writer) has charge of the Letters recd. & sent —

Q	A
2 Under what instructions does the person in charge act?	He is not furnished with any written instructions, but is made sensible of the consequence that is attached to their preservation.
3 Are the Letters received Copied fair into Books, if not in what Manner are they preserved?	The Letters received are Copied fair on Royal paper, and are bound up in Books with pasteboard covers.
4 If Copied fair, up to what period have they been Entered?	The Letters received are at present copied fair, as far as the Year 1811. From the small Establishment of Writers, the recordkeepers Assistance is repeatedly required to Copy fair the Monthly & other Accounts required from this Office. The Letter Books therefore are only written by him, when he is not occupied with other business.
5 Are the Letters sent copied fair?	The Letters sent are copied fair on Royal paper, & bound up in Books with paste-board covers.
6 Up to what period are they copied fair?	The Letters sent are copied fair as far as the Year 1813.

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7. Are the Monthly Quarterly & annual Accounts sent to the Accountant General & Board of [illegible]ue copied fair into Books?

These Accounts are not copied fair into Books, but each Months is separately tied up in Cloth Towels, and put into large Bamboo boxes covered with leather. They are separately distinguished by the Endorsement they bear, and are found out with ease by the person in charge of them.

8. Up to what period have they been copied?

They have not been copied.

9. Are the foul drafts of the Monthly, Quarterly & Annual English Accounts prepared on Country or Europe paper?

The foul Monthly Quarterly & Annual English Accounts were formerly prepared on Country Paper, but since the receipt of the new form of Accounts, the Copies in the Office are drawn out accordingly on Europe paper.

10. Are all the Statements of the Annual reports or other documents furnished to the Board from time to time, copied fair?

The Annual Statements or reports furnished to the Board are not copied fair into Books, but separately tied up in Bundles.

A

11. Is the Correspondence that has been copied fair bound up in Books—?

The Correspondece that has been copied up to this time is bound up in Books—

12. Are Your Regulations in the English & Native Languages Complete—?

The Regulations furnished to this Office are as follows—

Regulations

English			Tamul		Telagoo		Persians	
Year	Setts		Setts		Setts		Setts	
1802.	2 from	1 to 36.	1 from	1. to 36. ..	1. from	1. to 36. ..	1. from	1 to 12. 14. & 15. & from 17 to 36.
1803.	2.	1 to 12 & 14 to 16.	1.	1 to 12 & 14 to 16.	1.	1 to 12 & 14 to 16.	1.	1st 12th 14th & 16th—
1804.	2.	1 to 5.	1.	1 to 5.	1.	1 to 5.	1.	1 to 5.
1805.	2.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	"	"
1806.	2	1 to 7.	1.	1 to 7.	2 1	{ 1. & from 3 to 7. — 3 to 7.—	1.	5th—
1807.	2.	1 to 3.	1.	1 to 3.	2.	1 to 3.	"	"
1808.	2.	1 to 17.	1.	1 to 12. & 14. to 17. }	2	1. to 17.	"	"
1809.	2.	1 to 14.	2.	2 to 6.	1.	2d & 10 to 14.	2.	7 & 10.
1810.	2	1 to 3.	"	"	1.	1 to 3.	"	"
1811.	2.	1. to 8.	"	"	1. 1.	{ 1 to 8. 4 to 8.	"	"
1812.	2 1.	1 to 6. 1st	1. "	1 to 3 "	1. 1.	{ 1st & 2d 2d	1.	1st & 2d
1813.	2.	2d	"	"	"	"	"	"
1814.	2.	1.	2.	1.	2.	1.	"	"
1815.	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"

13 Have they been bound up in Books?

The English have been bound up in Books but the others are unbound from some of their being incomplete—

14. Is the room in which the English records are kept a terraced rooms secure from the weather & White Ants?

The place occupied for a Cutchery is an Ancient terraced building & the whole of the records are usually kept aside in the open Cutchery on wooden benches in leather boxes & secure from being injured by white ants—

15 Are all the rooms in which the records are kept perfectly weather proof?

The present state of the Cutchery in which the records are kept is perfectly safe from being injured by the weather—

16. Has any Index of Letters sent or received been prepared in your Cutchery?

No Index of the Letters sent or received has yet been prepared but it is intended that one should be commenced upon so soon as leisure from other duties will admit of it.

17. Up to what period is it brought up?

Vide above Para.

18. Have the original Letters received or sent in English been carefully arranged, tied up & docketted?

The original Letters received and sent are carefully preserved being pasted up in Books—

19 Is there any List of the English Records?

No List of the English records have been kept, but one is now preparing —

Perreacolum 24th June 1815

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr

Records in the Native Language —

1 Who has charge of the records in the Native Language?

The Roysoms have charge of the Arzees & Taheeds —

2 Under what instructions does the person in charge Act —

No written instructions are furnished to them; but they are strictly Enjoined to take particular care that they are not injured by the White Ants &ca

3 Are the Letters received from the Tahsildars & other Native Officers copied fair into Books?

The Letters received from the Tahsildars & other Native Officers are not copied in Books —

4 Up to what date are they Entered —?

They are not Entered

5 Are the Letters sent to Tahsildars & others copied fair into Books?

The Letters sent to the Tahsildars & others are copied in Books of brown paper —

2

6 Up to what date are they Entered?	The Letters sent are copied up to the day of dispatch—
7 In what Language are the Accounts of Collections and Payments kept in the District Cutcherries?	The Accounts of Collections & payments are kept in the Mahratta Language in the District Cutcherries—
In what language are the Accounts written, which are sent to the Hoozoor Cutcherry from the District Cutcherries?	The Accounts furnished to the Hoozoor Cutcherry are written in Mahrattas—
9 In what language are the Accounts prepared in the Hoozoor Cutcherry previous to being translated into English?	All Accounts at the Hoozoor are prepared in Mahrattas previous to being translated into English—
10 In what manner are the Native Accounts and other records secured against destruction by Vermin or by fire?	The Dzees & Takeeds are tied up in Cloth Towels & secured in leather boxes on wooden benches in the open Cutcherry a terraced building— The other records are also kept in the same Manner & are often examined & put out to dry in the sun—
11 Are the Petitions received Numbered & registered?	The Petitions received are Numbered & registered

12. Are the Answers given to Petitioners written & recorded?	The Answers are endorsed on the petitions and the same is recorded in the Register—
13. Is the room in which the Native records are kept terraced?	The Native records are kept aside in the open Cutcherry on wooden benches as stated in the 10th Para—
14. In what language are the details of repairs of Tanks and Watercourses prepared?	The details of repairs of Tanks & Watercourses are prepared in Mahrattas at the Hoozoor—
15. Are the Account particulars carefully preserved?	The Account particulars are carefully preserved with the other records—
16. Are they kept written in paper or Cadjans?	They are kept written on paper at the Hoozoor—but the district Cutcherries they are kept both on paper & on Cadjans—
17. Have the Native records ever been arranged carefully tied up & docketted?	The records are occasionally Inspected & arranged & docketted—
18. Is there any List of the Native records?	A list is put with each bundle containing the Monthly arzees & Takeeds, but no separate List is kept of the other records & accounts—

Perreacolum 24th June 1815.

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

To the Sub Treasurer

Fort Saint George

Sir,

I have the honor to forward a certificate for the Guard supplied for escorting 100,000 Pagodas from my Treasury and request that it may be returned to me after affixing your signature on the arrival of the Guard at the Presidency —

Dindigul 7th July 1815 — Signed R. Peter Collr.

To the Reporter of External Commerce —

Sir,

I have the honor to forward a Statement shewing the different kind, Quantity & Value of Articles Exported & Imported at the Frontier Chowkey for the Year 1814/15 —

The Exports & Imports, at the only Frontier Chowkey in this District, vary so little in each Year both in Quantity & Quality, that I have no further observations to offer than those already made, when forwarding the Statements of former Years —

Mistake

Dindigul 9th July 1815 — Signed R. Peter Collr.

The same to the Board of Revenue —

To

To the Reporter of External Commerce

Sir,

I have the honor to forward a Statement shewing the different kind Quantity & value of all Articles Exported & Imported at the Frontier Choukey for the Year 1814/15. in the district under my Charge the important articles of export & import at this Choukey consists of white Cloth & Boiled Nuts - In this Year there is a decrease in the Quantity of the former, and an encrease in favor of the latter - No Particular reasons are assigned for this variation which may therefore be attributed to the variation in the supply & Demand -

Dindigul 10th July 1815.

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

The same to the Board of Revenue -

To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to forward translate of a Copy of the proceedings of the

Zillah Court of Madura - Agreeably to the di-
-tions contained in the 4th Para of Your Secre
letter under date 17th April -

Nellore 25th July 1815 (Signed) R. Peter
Collr

(Court Seal)

Copy of an Extract from the proceedings of the Adawlu
Court held at Madura on Thursday the 11th May 1815.

Read Copy of a letter from the
Secretary to the Board of Revenue, to the Collect
of Madura, given by the Govt. Vakeel -

Resolved, that in future, all
person or persons, giving a List of Evidences,
shall, before they are filed, observe the following
questions, & then enter in the Diary what may
be stated by the person or persons -

Q. Are any of the Evidences You now
state in the List, Public Servants, in the
Revenue or Commercial Departments -

A. by the Court. Whenever Public Servants above
the rank of a peon in the Revenue or Commer-
-cial Departments, are required to attend
the Court, the Collectors or Commercial
Residents should be apprized thro' the channel
of the Govt. Vakeel of their attendance being
required -

The

The Government Vakeel will be furnished from the Collector with a List of all his Public Servants — After which, in case the Government Vakeel thro' indisposition should not be present, the List of Evidences so given being filed shall be delivered to the Court and recorded accordingly —

A true Extract
(Signed) W. O. Shakespear
Judge

Eyd
(Signed) Seenevass Iyengar
Abcarlat Royeem

(A true Translate)
(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

To the President and Members
of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Para 1st. I have the honor to reply to Your Secretary's letter of the 27th of April last desiring me to state my opinion, as to the expediency of transferring to the Collectors the whole of the duties vested by the Regulations in the Magistrate & more especially whether they can undertake those duties without additional European Assistance —

2nd. As Your Board must be well

ac-

acquainted with the numerous duties, which at present call forth the attention of Collectors - it would be needless for me to point them out, I shall therefore only offer it as my opinion, that they are of such a nature, as to render them, unable to undertake the whole of the duties of a Magistrate as vested in him by the Regulations without neglecting some of those, which now require their constant consideration -

3rd. I feel sensible that in answering this Question, a difference of opinion, as relative to the situations of different Collectorates must necessarily arise, but I feel assured that I shall be justified in expressing my conviction that an innovation in the duties of the Collector of the Districts of Madura & Dindigul, as far as relates to the superintendance of Police alone, might produce an effect, advantageous to the Inhabitants and beneficial to the interests of the Country -

4th. In executing the whole duties of a Magistrate my time would be so fully occupied, as to prevent the possibility of my

directing

directing personally, the affairs of the district under my charge — During the period of settlement when my presence is necessary / & I must beg leave to call the attention of Your Board to that system of settlement which has of late been introduced viz.t Ryotwary — & which renders the detail of business more voluminous than formerly / so much of my time is taken up, that the performance of Magisterial duties would not be possible — If it were so — I should not only require the additional assistance of Europeans — but a large Establishment of Natives — The mere operation of taking depositions demands the labour of many persons — In a reference to any Court, it may be ascertained, how large a portion of the time, of Native Servants is occupied in this one branch alone, & from hence it may be determined how far a Collector is capable of assuming the office of a Magistrate, with due consideration to that already under his charge —

5th With regard to the transfer of the superintendance of the Police to a Collector —

&

I conceive it my duty to state, as far as relates to my district—that such a Measure would not be attended with disadvantageous results—Indeed I think it might be undertaken with advantage—and my reason for this supposition arises, from a knowledge that in a Village a divided Authority does not contribute to the welfare of its Inhabitants—Under existing Circumstances some of the village officers are attached to both the Judicial and Revenue Departments—& instances in my experience have occurred of non attendance to my requisitions, upon the plea of previous attendance to the call of the Magistrate—& thus delays have ensued in the transaction of public business which in the case of the superintendance of the Police being immediately in charge of the Collector, never could have happened, upon the principle "that one Man cannot serve two Masters"—I would recommend a change in the present system, & further I would add that the Inhabitants might be released from the oppression of that part of the Police Esta-blishment coming under the head of Tonadars—whose services I conceive might be altogether abolished—

6th In the case of Pottahs I consider the present regulations if properly enforced, in every respect adequate to the purposes intended - But to ensure its fulfilment with greater success, if a regulation for prohibiting Zemindars from distraining property for arrears of rent, without an order from the Collector, be enacted - every Zemindar will be obliged to act up to the regulation, as the Collector would not authorize the distraint of any property unless the Pottah be produced - Hitherto, although I have frequently pointed out the line of Conduct to be adopted by the Zemindars No Complaints have been made to me by Inhabitants of a refusal on their part to grant Puttyoms agreeably to the Regulations - there may be however many instances in which this Regulation has not been strictly adhered to, & it may therefore be inferred that a mutual agreement of some kind has passed between the parties -

7th Where the Provisions of the Regulation regarding Pottahs have so far been disregarded as to render an appeal to the Zillah Court

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Court necessary - The Magistrate of course will be guided by Regulation XXX enacted for that particular case -

Nellore 27th July 1815 (Signed) R. Peter Collr

To the President and Members of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Para 1st In conformity to the instructions received in Your Secretary's letter dated 10th April I have the honor to forward to You tenders for the rent of the Abkarry for Fusly 1225 -

2d The Statement of the Number of Shops & Stills in Ramnad and Shevagunga will be forwarded in a few days -

Nellore 29th July 1815 (Signed) R. Peter Collr

To the President and Members of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

In forwarding on the 29th July the tenders for the rent of the Abkarry for Fusly 1225 I omitted to state in the column of remarks, that adequate security had been offered -

offered by all proposers — I therefore lose no time in rectifying this omission —

Nellore 3rd August 1815 — (Signed) R. Peter Collr.

To the President and Members of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Para 1st I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Secretary's letter dated 10th July with its enclosures —

2nd From the present tranquil state of the district, I can entertain no apprehension whatever that the release of Ponnapah Naig will be attended with danger — under the terms proposed by the Zillah Magistrate — & I would likewise recommend that his pension be encreased to the Amount solicited — Vizt. 30 Pagodas ℘ Mensem —

3rd With respect to the sums required by the Petitioner, for the performance of the Funeral rites of his late wife, & for defraying the expences of his new Marriage — It must rest with Your Board to determine, on the propriety of bestowing so large a sum, on a person, who can be considered on no other light than a Prisoner & who,

had

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had he been in possession of his Zemindary, could not have required a larger sum for the fulfilment of these Ceremonies—

4th. Should the Government be disposed to shew that indulgence to the Petitioner & his family, which has so often been afforded on various occasions— I conceive that the sum of 4 or 500 Pagodas, would be sufficient to answer the purposes required by the Petitioner—

Mellore 4th August 1815— (Signed) A. Peter Collr.

To the President and Members of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Para 1st. I have the honor to forward a Moyenzabitah for the Zemindary of Ramnad, to which I request Your Sanction—

2d. In this Moyenzabitah, I have fixed the Establishment at reduced a rate as I conceive they will admit of; but should I hereafter find it impossible to make a greater reduction, Your Board may rely on my doing so—

3rd. The Writer & Gomastahs for the Hoozoor, will be required to prepare the Accounts, which

which are received from the Head & Talook Cutcherries, and the Peons are wanted for the Talooks; as the number attached to the Hoozoor Establishment, are so constantly employed in the Madura and Dindigul Districts, as to render an extension of their duties impossible –

4th Of late my time has been so much occupied in the settlement of Dindigul & Madura, that I have been unavoidably prevented from proceeding to the Zemindary, to investigate and ascertain personally its present resources, but as soon as some Accounts are completed, which the Servants are now preparing, I shall lose no time in going thither, and making the Circuit of the Country –

5th In the accompanying Statement B is shewn the Extent of Cultivation for last fusly – the Amount Collected & appropriated by the Zemindar, previous to the Assumption of the Country, and the Amount which is expected to be realized from the remaining resources of the District –

6th As I shall proceed through each Talook shortly, I shall investigate fully every Circumstance connected with the Zemindary,

I shall offer no further observations for the present; but only request your early Sanction to the Moyenzabitah now transmitted—

Madura 5th September 1825 Signed R. Peter Collr.

To the President and Members
of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Para 1st I have the honor to forward, Moyen Zabitahs &ca for the Districts under my charge, for Fusly 1225. and as they do not vary from those of the preceding Fusly, I have no particular observations to offer on them—

2d Under the head of "Charges General in Madura & Ramnad," in the Estimate of charges now transmitted, there is an increase in the Per Centage, on that of last year of Rs. F. C. 5. 20. 23¾ which is caused by the Ramnad Zemindary being assumed for Arrears— In Dindigul likewise, there is an increase of Rs. F. C. 5. 29. 52¾ Per Cent, under the head of "Charges Extraordinary" this is owing to a larger sum for Tank Repairs being Estimated, than was actually Expended in the preceding Fusly— With the exception of the above, there is so trifling a variation

in

in the per Centage, of the Actual Charges of last fusly and those now Estimated for the present, that I trust, any further remarks will be considered superfluous, I shall therefore, only solicit your Sanction to the Estimate as now submitted -

Madura 10th Septr 1815.
Dispatched from Pullymuddy in Ramnad 27 Septr 1815.

(Signed) R. Peter
Coll.

To the President and Members
of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Diffd 25th

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Secretary's letter of the 14th August last, and in reply beg leave to refer your Board to the 9th Para of Mr Parish's letter of the 30th June 1807 which mentions that "the Renter of Hill Cardamoms "in the District of Dindigul having in the last year "failed in his public Engagements, & no person of "respectability offering to undertake the rent, I was "under the necessity of retaining this branch of "Revenue under Aumanee in fusly 1216" & points out a Decrease occurring under Aumanee Manage:ment of Sa. 371. F. 22. C. 26 less than the rent of fusly 1215.

In consequence of the renter (Coopiah) of fusly 1215. having absconded Mr Parish

adduces -

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To the President and Members

of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Ramgherry
Conaawaady
Tanacrom
Pulleapanaic Renoor

I have the honor to forward Statements of Miners with their Establishment for your Sanction

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

Dindigul
22d. July 1814

addressed your Board on the 9th July 1800, requesting that a Warrant might be issued for his apprehension as it was reported that he was concealed within the limits of the Town of Madras. He was not then apprehended, but he afterwards made his appearance at Madura in the year 1810 in a religious Character, & was then seized & committed to Jail.

It does not appear from the records that he has assigned any reason for the failure of his Engagement. On the Contrary, from the accounts which are in the office, it is Evident that the produce of the Hills in that fusly was amply sufficient to enable him to fulfil his Engagements with the Circar, which he avoided by absconding. The Consequence was, the Securities were put in Jail, and the Renter himself followed, as soon as he could be apprehended. As I cannot discover any property belonging to the Securities or Renter, it might be as well perhaps, if they were released. the former especially & other Securities might be taken for the appearance of the latter whenever required.

Pullyenadday in Ramnad }
27th September 1815 }

Signed R. Peter
Collr.

To the Accountant General
Fort Saint George

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the

the receipt of your Deputy's letter of the 23rd Instant.

In the 2d Para your Deputy states, that it appears that I made no effort, whatever, to provide funds for the discharge of the Public Bills, drawn on my Treasury - in this, I must say, he is mistaken; for I used every exertion to collect what sums I could of the outstanding Balances - Unfortunately I could not dispose of any of the Grain in the Pannad Zemindary (where nearly the whole of the Balance is due) unless at so reduced a rate as I conceived nothing would have justified; and I therefore was unable to discharge of the Bills presented -

Had I been aware that I should have been authorized in calling on the neighbouring Collectors for assistance (as I have now done on the Collector of Trichinopoly for 20000 Pagodas) I, of course should not have hesitated a moment in doing so. I have sent for the different Merchants who had Bills, and shall discharge them without loss of time, and shall in future, on any similar occasion, be guided by your Deputy's instructions.

The cause of the discrepance in the date of the letter and the Post mark was owing to my detaining it until I heard from the different Talooks &ca what amount I might expect

to

to be remitted, and if it would be sufficient to answer the Bills—

Pullymaddoy 30th Septr 1815 — Signed R. Peter Collr

To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

As the Tanks & Sluices in the different Talooks, require frequent repair, it would be very desirable, to have a head Maistry & Deputy appointed, to superintend the works, I therefore request your permission to nominate two people in the above Capacities, one on a Salary of 6 Pagds. p mensem & the other on a Salary of 4—

Pullymaddoy in Ramnad
6th October 1815— Signed R. Peter Collr

To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Para 1st. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Secretary's letter calling upon me for such information as could be collected regarding the family of Bungaroo Tirmal Naig to whom the Enclosures in the said letter referred—

In

2nd In order to enable me to report on the subject with as much accuracy as possible, I summoned the Head Brahmins of Meenatchee Covil in Madura, who are people generally supposed to be better informed on such subjects, than any other, I obtained from their Accounts a Memorandum containing the names of the

Vide Memo several Kings who reigned; but from that Account, and from all enquiries which I have made, I have not been able to learn precisely, what relationship Bungauroo Tirmul Naig bore, to any of the Kings of Madura, as the Church Accounts merely specify the names of those who reigned in Madura and nothing further.

3rd The Son of Meenatchee Naig (the Agent of the Petitioner at Madras) who is at Madura, informed me, from the Statements in his possession, that Bungauroo Tirmul Naig's son Veja Comauroo Mootoo Termalay Naig was adopted by Meenatchee Ammal Queen of Madura in consequence of her not having any Children, and that he was the nearest a kin to her, being the Grand Son of Comauroo Termalay Naig Brother to Chokanauda Naig No 11 who was the Father-in-law of Meenatchee Ammal; but as this information is stated from Copies of papers fur-nished to him by his Father, who is at Madras, I must leave it to your Board to determine what credit is to be given to it.

The

4th The Deposition given by the Church Bramins of Meenatchee Covil asserts, that when Madura was invaded by Chundah Saib, & Buday Saib in the year Sidarthee A. D. 1738 in the reign of Meenatchee Ummal Queen of Madura, that Bungaurroo Tirmul Naigo's Son, Vejea Comauroo Mootoo Tirmulay Naig was taken under the protection of Vellyen Sheragar the Minister of Siddbathee Rajah of Ramnad, & was permitted to reside in Vellecourchee which was then attached to the Zemindary of Ramnad but since included in Shevagunga. That the Minister Vellyen Sheragar of Ramnad & Tandaveray Pillay Minister of Shevagunga had by force of Arms taken possession of Madura from the Nabob, who held it for a period of 14 Years, and instated the said Vejea Mootoo Tirmulay Naick, on the Throne of Madura, in the year Angerashaw A. D. 1752 Month Margelo (December) and that his reign continued till the Year Streemogah A. D. 1753. Month Vyashee (May) a period of 6 Months, but that in consequence of the Nabob's people having retaken it, he retired again to Vellecourchee — I cannot however discover that any immunities were granted to him or his family or Enjoyed by them, under the Nabob's Govt after their expulsion from Madura —

5th From the Depositions of the Inhabitants of Vellecourchee, it appears that the *Kurtaukul family have from Ankoourno Pareya Adyu

4 ... used ... Gentoo ... of Madura

of Shevagunga 95 Years back — Odya tauer's time Enjoyed the Village free of rent with the exception of a small portion of Land retained for the private Cultivation of the former and present Zemindars; but that the present Zemindar has for the last 4 Years exacted a Poruppoo or share of 100 Pagodas ⅌ Annum —

Nos 5. 6. 7. 8. & 9 — 6th. The Depositions of the Inhabitants of Nadoohanenthel & Taumaragoody assert, that these Villages were enjoyed free of rent from the

vide Para 5th — time of Shashwurna tauer, by Meenatchee Naig the agent of the Kurthaukul family, but that for the last 4 Years, the present Zemindar collected a rent of, from 5 to 7 Looly fanams ⅌ Cullom of Seed Land in the former Village and has assumed the latter —

No. 10 & 11 — 7th. In consequence of Meenatchee naig's Son having presented to me two Sunnuds of Vejea Ragoonautha Paraya Odya tauer, granting two Villages (Taumaragoody & Nadoohanenthel) to Meenatchee Naig and Velleecoorchee to Ramabudra pillay, the agent of the Kurthaukul (by which is meant, respectfully to be granted to the Rajah) in the year Thaurunah or A. D. 1764 — I called upon the present Shevagunga Zemindar, to report upon the subject of their having been permitted to hold these Villages free of rent, & the subsequent causes

of

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of his receiving a rent or Russoom of 100 Pagodas from Velleecourchee, to which, He has in reply

Nos 12 & 13. stated; That he had learnt from Enquiries, that Bungaroo Termals Naig's son Vejea Comauroo Mootoo Termalay Naig resorted to Theeagunga in the year Krothanah A. D. 1745 and remained there, till the year Karay A. D. 1771 for a period of 26 Years. In the year Nunthanah A. D. 1772 he left Theeagunga for some foreign place, returned in the year Soabagirthoo A. D. 1782 and resided there till the year Ruckthautchee A. D. 1804 during all which time, he received support from him & his Ancestors. That the Village Velleecourchee was not granted as an Hereditary right, but only to relieve him from the distresses in which he was likely to be plunged, by being so suddenly driven from his Country; and that as it is not Entered in his Accounts as being granted to the Trimal Naig family it cannot consequently be binding on him to continue it to them.

8th When this Zemindary was finally settled, there were no Accounts of Enam Lands made out, as in other Estates, by which we in the present instance can be guided, but I think, it is Evident from the various depositions, which are now forwarded that this family did Enjoy the Village

of

of Velleecourchee for many years, almost free of rent, and that therefore the additional 100 Pagodas collected during these last 4 Years can be considered in no other light, than an imposition, which the Zemindar, has no right whatever to exact.

9th. In Guntapanaickenoor Zemindary of Dindigul, they still enjoy the Village of Thaickum-putty unmolested which I believe is the only one.

10th. Tho' I cannot ascertain the exact relationship which Bungauroo Tirmalay Naick bore to Meenatchee Ummaul, yet as his son succeeded to the Musnud, we may naturally conclude that he was considered the lawful Heir. Vejea Comauroo Visua-nauda Bungauroo Tirmalay Naick the Petitioner, is his Grand Son; and when we reflect on the fallen greatness of this once celebrated family, reduced at once from the highest state of prosperity to penury, we cannot but pity their Misfortunes and Endeavour to alleviate them as much as possible; and with these sentiments, I beg leave to recommend them to your Board's notice, as being objects worthy of the consideration of Government.

Pullymadday in Ramnad
7th. October 1815.

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

To

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To the President and Members
of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Para 1st. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Secretary's letter transmitting for my information, Copy of a Correspondence between your Board, and the Collector of Cuddapah, and requesting to know how far I consider the rules proposed by Mr. Ross for the preservation and improvement of the public Woods & Forests under the Presidency to be applicable to the Districts under my Charge -

2nd. In these Districts there are neither Forests nor woods of any Consequence, In the range of Hills in Dindigul, both Black wood & Teak are occasionally cut, but in such small Quantities as to be scarcely worth noticing - The Regulations therefore cannot be considered applicable to these Districts - Had it I conceive the rules proposed by Mr. Ross sufficient to answer the purposes for which they are intended -

3d. In this part of the Country no restrictions have been Established, upon the felling of Palmyra & Cocoanut Trees - this may be owing to no Complaint having been lodged, of trees being wantonly felled, & to the natural desire of the

Proprietors

Proprietors to preserve property from which they derive a profit —

Pullymaddoy in Ramnad
9th October 1815 —

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

To the President and Members
of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Agreeably to the instructions enclosed in your Secretary's letter of the 8th June last I have the honor to submit Estimate of Extra Charges of a Revenue nature for fusly 1225 Amounting to Star Pagodas 644.. 42.. 40 as also Extra Charges of a similar nature in the Salt & Sayer Departments Amounting to Star Pagodas 170.. 26.. 63. for which I have to solicit the Sanction of Government may be obtained —

I have also to solicit the Sanction of Government for the actual Charges incurred in fusly 1224 on Account of Batta to Mootoo curuppa Tauven a state Prisoner at Ramnad for his subsistence @ 1/2 Rupee pr diem or Star Pagodas 136.. 19.. 12. pr Annum & the Estimated sum of Star Pagodas 136.. 38.. 35 for fusly 1225. the difference of 19 fanams & 23 cash between the last & present year is owing to an additional day on Account of the leap year —

Paramacoody 20th Octr. 1815 —

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

To

To the President and Members

of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Para 1st I have the honor to transmit a Jummabundy & Kistbundy of the Province of Madura Dindigul &ca for Fusly 1224

Vide Statements ABCDE & No. 1 A

2d Altho' I communicated at different times to your Board the state of the past season, I deem it necessary in making my report of the Settlement to take a brief retrospective view of it.

Madura

3rd In the Early part of the season, the Showers which fell were not in that abundance adequate to a great extention of the Punjah Cultivation, but during the Monsoon a greater supply of rain than has been experienced for the last three or four years, combined with the filling of the Vygay twice replenished the various Tanks, and Enabled the Inhabitants to carry on Punjah Cultivation with greater advantage.

4th On a reference to the Statements now forwarded, it will be seen that in all the Talooks there is a Considerable increase on the Punjah Cultivation compared with that of the preceding Year. In some of the Talooks there is a little falling off in the Punjah, from rain not having fallen at a proper season, in an Equal

portion

portion in them, as in the other Divisions, and which has caused the deductions I was induced to make on Account of Shawee, or the Crops withering, particularly in Aungoor, which had suffered most of the failure –

5th. The total Settlement of Madura,

Vide A. Col. 47 Amounts to 91,216. sp. 36 f. 15 c. making an increase on

Vide A Col. 49. that of Fusly 1223. of Star Pagodas 20,586.. 41.. 37 – and on the Actual Cultivation of the year, that is including Shawee 10,283 sp. – 36 f.. 47 c. as follows –

		sp.	f	c
Settlement of Fusly 1224		70,629	39	58
Amount of Nunjah Shawee	11,018.. 4.. 49			
ditto of Punjah ditto	697.. 5.. 20	11,715	9	69
		82,345	4	47

Settlement of Fusly 1224	91,216.. 36.. 15		
Amount of Nunjah Shawee Col. 26. (Vide A.)	188.0.19		
reduced Turwah Col. 27.	622.12.62		
Punjah Shawee Col. 23.	601.20.70	1412.. 4.. 71	92,628.. 41.. 14

Increase .. 10,283.. 36.. 47

6th. In my address of the 30th October 1814 I stated how oppressive I considered the Tax levied under the head of "Putthee Cawol" and urged the Conviction I entertained in the advantages which would ensue, if that was abolished; I have not therefore

Since writing the above I received Your Boards address to Govt in which the abolition of the Putthee Cawol has been recommended –

Collected

Collected it from the greater part of the Inhabitants this Year, as I await your orders on the subject. Those from whom I have collected it, I considered had not paid that attention to their Cultivation which I conceived the season admitted of, it has been therefore levied from them more as an Example, in order that they may understand that indulgence will not be granted, unless they exert themselves to deserve it.

ide A Col 11.

7th. In a few Villages I have found it desirable to reduce the Teerwah, a statement of which is now forwarded. These reductions were made with a reference to the Assessment of the Lands of the Neighbouring Villages, and as I could discover no particular local advantages derived by these Lands I considered it but Equitable to their possessors to place them on a level with the circumjacent Villag

ide Enclosure
No 2 & 3 in A

8th. From this measure the Inhabitan will be induced to Cultivate Lands which have been laying Waste a Number of Years, owing to the Assessment on them being too high to allow of their deriving adequate remuneration for the labo they might expend on their Culture.

9th. Not a Year has passed since I have been nominated to the Charge of these Districts that I have ~~been~~ been doomed to relate some unfortu-nate Calamity.

In

10th In November last, the storm which occurred did more damage than I was at first aware of – In the Villages immediately around Madura, it destroyed during its rage, independent of Grain fields, nearly 3000 head of Cattle, valued at about 7000 Chuckrums, and still more grievous to relate, nearly 50 Young Men & Boys who were watching them were found dead – A storm of such excessive violence, I do not recollect to have Witnessed, and its Effects seem to have been equally felt on the Island of Ceylon – from which direction it originated Such a loss as I have just stated could not fail, of having some influence on the Cultivation; but as the storm did not fortunately extend its outrages to any considerable distance beyond Madura, the damage has not been so great as it otherwise would have been –

Dindigul

11th In this Province Your Board will observe, I am happy to say, a considerable increase in the present settlement surpassing that of the preceding Fasly, after deducting remission on Acct. of the Assessment being too high, in the sum of Star Pagodas 7461 – 41. 16. The settlement of 32 Estates

[V]ide Enclosure No. 1 in C. Rec Col. 4.

and

	Rs.	f.	c.
and 2 Zemindaries, vide D is	76534	"	3
Deduct Mailmungalom, Dattalagoon-tat, Syaloor Nellacottah and Sundyoor assumed in Fusly 1224	12,805.	33.	26.
Settlement of 29 Estates	63690.	11.	57
Permanent settlement of 29 Estates	73136	" 44	" 3.
Decrease	+9438.	32.	26.

being only ...s in the Permanent settlement including remission in the sum of ---------------- +7,200- 3- 0.

This will be observed by the following Statement

	Permanent Amt.	Settlement of 1224	Amt. remission allowed	Total	Increase	Decrease	Increase between Col. 1 & 2	Decrease between Col. 1 & 2
Soddycamboo	20009-42-10	17687.41.20	1238-4-8	18926..28	" "	9164 41 62	" " "	10402 " 70
Sylimpully	25657-2-47	25312-34-55	419 " 47	25731-35-22	74 32 55	" "	" " "	344 12 72
Tenkaray exclusive of Mailmungalom	11296-3-35	10829-18-19	502-24-43	11331-42-62	35 39 27	" "	" " "	466 30 16
Woottumpollam	8093-40-71	9868-7-43	" "	9868-7-43	1774-11-52	" "	1774-11-52	" "
Total	73136-44-3	63698-11-57	2159-39-18	65857-40-75	+1884-38-54	9164 41 62	*1774-11-52	11212-43-78
				Deduct		+1884 38 54	Deduct	*1774-11-52
				Decrease		+7200 3 0	Decrease	+9438-32-26

12th By the above Statement D it will be seen, that in the Sympully & Tenkaray Divisions the Revenue derived from them, even after deducting the remission allowed nearly equals the Permanent settlement, and in Woottumpollam where the Assessment is lowest, it surpasses it, and even the Kham Baray or Gross revenue of Mr. Hurdis. The decrease in the Soddycamboo Division is almost entirely attributable to the great losses it sustained in its Inhabitants by the dreadful Epidemic which raged with so much violence a short time ago. In this Division the fever was more destructive than in any of the others, and it carried off a great portion of its Cultivators added to which the Assessment is higher than in any other.

13th In my several letters to your

Board

Board, I stated my Conviction of the necessity which existed of reducing the Teerwahs in Dindigul, and notwithstanding the permission which I received from you to do so, I have hesitated in making a general reduction at once, being aware of the abuse such a measure might subject me to; I have therefore preferred adopting it gradually, making reductions only where I had fully ascertained the necessity of them, and this measure has been attended with considerable success, as I trust the present settlement will evince. The reductions made in this manner Amount to Star Pagodas 2530 - 36 - 2 -

vide C

14th. In my letter of the 10th July 1814 I recommended the assumption of Rellacotta, Battlagoontah, Mailmungalom, Iyaloor & Lundyoor and as I was convinced of the fallacy of expecting the Balances to be liquidated by allowing the Estate to remain longer in possession of the Zemindars, & knowing that by so doing, an Annual defalcation would inevitably ensue, I determined without waiting the orders of your Board to assume them.

	Sp.	f.	c.
The Settlement Amount to	12805 -	33 -	26
Permanent Settlement	17069 -	29 -	4
being a decrease in the Perm.t Settlem.t of	4263 -	40 -	58

but

204 409

vide Encl. No 4 C

but an increase in the Collections of the preceding year of ... S.P. f. C. 2876 - 17 - 8.

Vizt.

Collections on Settlement of July 1223	10,729 - 16 - 18.
Settlement of July 1224	12,005 - 33 - 26
Increase	2876 - 17 - 8.

15th In these Pollams & Estates, I found the Tanks in a wretched state, owing to no repairs having been made for many years, & therefore lost no time in putting them into the best order the time would admit of.

16th F is a Summah & Kisthundy of the three Estates in possession of the Zemindars, Amounting to 9,257 - 40 - 10. making as follows.

	S.P. f. C.
Total Settlement of 33 Estates & 2 Zemindaries	76,504 - " - 3.
Deduct Kollacotta & Sundypoor Zemindaries	6109 - 10 - 15.
	70,394 - 34 - 68
Add 3 Estates in possession of Zemdrs.	9257 - 40 - 10.
Total for 35 Estates	79,652 - 30 - 6

Permt. Amount	
Sundypoor S.P.	1346.12.76.
Kollacotta do.	7136.30.36
	8482.43.32.
Add	250510.19.44
Total	258993.17.76

17th G is a Detailed Summah & Kisthundy of the whole Zemindaries Amounting to Star Pagodas 250,510 - 19 - 44 -

18th H & I are Summah & Kisthundies of the different Hills amounting to 1066 - 30 - " S.P. f. C. making

an

an Increase of 36-16-29 on the preceding fusly—

19th. For fusly 1224 the Cardamom Hills were kept under Aumanee on Account of the dispute with the Travancoreans which has not yet been decided, and the Total Cardamom's Collected during the fusly, Amount to Tolams 1465 - Polls 25 or Candies 54 Maund 18. Viss 7/2 exclusive of other Articles—

20th. J & K exhibit the Gross Collections of the Sayer & Salt Amounting to S.P. 69,036 f. 30 c. 57 making a decrease of S. Pagodas 3903-13-49—

Madura & Dindigul rented for fusly 1223	3073. 6. 66
Collns for Ramnad & Shevagunga under Aumanee	2937. 32. 42
Amt Entered in the report of 1223	6010. 39. 28
Add Collns for 1233 in fusly 1224	1220. 25. 77
	7239. 20. 25
Amt rent of 1224	6886. 34. 69
Decrease	352. 30. 36

21st. L is a statement of Abkarry Amounting to Star Pagodas 6,886-34-69 making a decrease of 352-30-36 than the last year—

22d. Of the Sayer Salt & Abkarry, I have already reported to your Board, but I cannot refrain from bringing to your Board's notice once more the advantage which I am thoroughly persuaded would result from renting out the Bettle Monthly or for a period not exceeding three Months - Your Board must be well aware how very difficult it is for the Servants at the different Choukies with the small Esta-
blishment

205 411

-blishment allotted to them, to prevent the smuggling of an Article which is so common & can be carried with so much Ease, and in such a variety of ways; if then a Method can be devised to remedy this defect, and obviate abuses that have already been experienced, it must be highly desirable—

23d The method I propose is this, that the Beetle, or rather the duty on Beetle shall be rented from 1 to 3 Months, at the expiration of which, it shall be renewed— In most instances I think it will be found that the Beetle Gardener or the Venders will become the renters— A fair Average price should be fixed on the Commodity, taken according to the rates of Sale during the last 3-4-or 5 Months with a due consideration to a reasonable profit, and should the supply of Beetle Enable the sellers to cheapen the sale of the Article, no check will of course be imposed upon them— By taking this rent they are not to prevent others from selling their Beetle; but on such Beetle as may be brought, they are to collect the duty as prescribed by the Tariff & no more! These people therefore may be considered more in the light of the Collectors of Duty on their own Article of Sale than Renters—

If

24th If at any time it proves oppressive it can be taken off after the expiration of any term, but the agreements which must be Entered into by the parties would prevent the fear of an occurrence of such a nature - Indeed so convinced was I, of the advantage of the measure I proposed, that I could not refrain from trying it in some Villages, and the success with which it has been attempted has been beyond my Expectations, & so well pleased have the Inhabitants & people been with this measure, that I have received several requests to continue it - indeed, every Inquiry Convinces me that the Inhabitants prefer the Collection of the Duty on Beetle by rent, and that they purchased it at a more moderate price, than under the present mode of Collection -

25th **M** is a statement of stampt paper sold, during the fusly, Amounting to Star Pagodas. 2534 - 21. 40 -

26th **N** are Abstract Statements of Jummah of the whole of the Districts under my charge, Amounting to Star Pags 5,07813 - 33 - 14 more than the fusly 1223 by 20418 - 5 - 14 exclusive of Cardamoms &ca

vide Rel in N.

L

27th

I cannot conclude without mentioning the ready assistance I have received on all occasions, from Mr. Drury wherever his services could be in the least useful, and I have not the smallest doubt that the Salt & Sayer branches of Revenue under whose immediate charge they have been placed, will receive every improvement that a strict attention to their Management can produce—

Paramagoody 7th Novr. 1815.   Signed R. Peter
Collr.

To the President and Members
of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to forward Translate of a Petition from the Concubines of the late Seedoo-thee Rajah, who lived with him whilst in Confinement at Madras, and as a small provision was made to them under the late Ranee & her successors to the Ramnad Zemindary, as pr. Enclosed Memorandum, I beg leave to request your permission to continue the same to them, as they are stated to suffer great distress since this allowance has been discontinued—

Paramagoody 14th Novr. 1815.   Signed R. Peter
Collr.

To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Having had reason to believe that the Accounts of Cultivation received from the different Talooks up to the 31st October last were returned to the different Tahsildars for Correction, and I have now the honor to forward a Statement shewing the Extent of Cultivation up to the 15th of November, Compared with that of the preceding Year up to the same period—

Paramagoody 20th Novr 1815.

Signed R. Peter
Collr

To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Having Expended the Gun Powder which was furnished to me in June 1813 to drive away the Elephants and wild Beasts from the Grain fields, I have to request that I

may

207. 415

may be supplied with a further Quantity of 6 Barrels.

Paramacoody 2nd December 1815. (Signed) R. Peter Collr.

Indent on Captain J. C. Francke Commissary of Stores at Trichinopoly for the following delivery of Articles for the undermentioned purpose.

Articles	No.	Cause of deficiency & for what purpose wanted.	Admitted of & ordered to be suppd.
Gunpowder barrels	6	For the use of the Revenue service.	
Paramagoody 2d December 1815.		Signed R. Peter Collr.	

To the President and Members of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I beg to recommend Annasayee row, a Gomastah in the present Establishment, to be appointed keeper of the Native Records in this Office.

Paramagoody 5th December 1815. Signed R. Peter Collr.

To the President and Members

of the

Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to forward a Comparative statement of the Cultivation up to the 30th November for fusly 1225

Nellore 16th December 1815

(Signed) R. Peter Collr

To the President and Members

of the

Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to forward Statements of the Balances of the Zemindaries and Estates permanently settled from the first introduction of the permanent system of Revenue up to the 30th November 1815 according to the forms forwarded with your letter

208 417

letter of the 20th September last, and have detailed in an Abstract statement opposite to each sum the causes of the Balances having accrued—

Nellore 18th December 1815
Despatched 21st do.

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

Paukavitty Vittam

Moottoo Teluppah Sheroza-

of

Moostah coorchy.

209 418

To the President and Members

of the

Board of Revenue.

Gentlemen,

Para 1st. I have the honor to report the Duties performed by my Assistant Mr. Drury, during the last six Months.

2nd. On his first joining me his attention was taken up in the perusal of the records, and assisting me occasionally in the Completion of the Settlement. after which, he was Employed in translating Arzees; and as soon as he had attained a sufficient knowledge of the different branches of Revenue; first, the Cboutries were put under his Management, and latterly, the Talook of Huttom; the duties of which, he appears, thoroughly, to comprehend, and performs with much assiduity.

Dindigul 12th January 1816.

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

To the Officer Commanding
Dindigul

Sir,

The Choukeydar of Dindigul having

having made a Complaint that the Sepoys under your Command have smuggled large Quantities of Beetle, & that they resist every attempt to the discovery of the same with violence - I have the honor to request that you will adopt such measure to prevent these practises which have produced considerable defalcation in the Sayer Collections of this Town - You will I trust give this subject your earliest consideration - As I should regret the necessity of Acting to the Regulations of Government -

Dindigul 14th January 1816 } (Signed) R. Peter Collr.

To the President and Members of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to forward a Comparative Statement of the Cultivation up to the 31st December for Fusly 1225 -

Dindigul 14th January 1816 } (Signed) R. Peter Collr.

To

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To the President and Members
of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Para 1st. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Secretary's letter of the 2d Inst. desiring that I would state, whether (as asserted by the Concubines of the late Sidhathee Rajah) orders were received at this Cutchary from Government for the payment of a pension of 300 Rupees P. Mensem to these persons, and if so, how it happened that these orders were not carried into execution - In reply I have only to state, that, had such orders been received, they would have superceded the necessity of my troubling your Board on the subject -

2nd On the 8th of June 1809 Your Secretary forwarded to Mr Parish, Copies of papers relative to the disposal of these people, & directed him at the same time, to report upon the points adverted to by the Board, in a letter to the Chief Secretary to Government dated 22d May 1809 which was also transmitted -

3rd Mr Parish, in answer on the 23d July 1809 gave it as his opinion, that as these women did not follow him into Confinement

-ment from Ramnad on his first removal; but had subsequently sought his protection, and as Government had amply provided for all those persons who were immediately connected with the Rajah, at the time of his deposition, they had no claims on its liberality, since which no orders for the payment of the allowance claimed having been received. the Petitioners were maintained by the Rannee until the time of her death —

Dindigul 15th January 1816 } (Signed) R. Peter Collr.

To the President & Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Para 1st.

I have the honor to forward to you, Statements relative to the Settlement of the Ramnad Zemindary, on its assumption for Fusly 1224 –

2nd.

From the Zemindary having been litigated and transferred, variously, to the party in whose favor it has been decreed, a degree of confusion has arisen in its management, which has naturally caused a greater length

of time to Elapse, in ascertaining the real sources of the Country, than would have been the case, had no such litigation taken place — It appears Evident from the investigations that have been made, that each party in whose possession the Zemindary may have been placed, have taken advantage of their temporary administration, to collect and appropriate to their several purposes many sums which should have gone to liquidate the Balances against the Estate —

3rd For the mode in which the Punjah Revenue is collected, they leave to refer to You to Mr Lushington's report of 29th December 1800. In the Punjah or Dry Grain, ready money was generally received, and the rate fixed for Fusly 1224 by the Zemindar, was from 5 to 10 Sooly fanams Pr Koorkum, as is shewn in Statement No. 1.

Vide Statement No. 1 Col. 3d

4th During the Management of Mr Lushington, the revenue was collected at the rate of, from 8 to 12 fanams Pr koorkum, which mode obtained for a while; but latterly seems to have been abandoned, and to have been altered to 5 & 10 Sooly fanams, by the Zemr. which has been my guide for the present settlement

Vide No. 1.

Vide No. 1 Col. 3d

agreeably

agreeably to the Regulations –

5th. Statement No. 2 exhibits the Settlement which I have been enable to effect for Fusly 1234 –

Vide No. 2

6th. No. 3 is an Abstract of the same – In Column 22 the Amount collected previous to the assumption of the Zemindary is shewn – Of this sum, Star Pagodas 16,000 have been paid into the Treasury, the Balance 51,320 . 13 . 65 it is said, has been paid to Merchants to liquidate old debts, and to disburse the Sibbendy and Sadawared Charges of the District – this perhaps may in part, have some foundation, but I am of opinion, that some part of it has been applied to discharge the Expenses incurred by the law suit –

Vide No. 3
Pas 67,320 . 13 . 65

7th. No. 4 shews the Amount Collected since the Assumption – Of this Pag. 15,000 – " " have been paid into the Treasury – Pagodas 15,007 . 30 . 65 have defrayed the Sibbendy & other incidental charges, and Pagodas 5784 " 16 have been advanced for Murraumut or Repairs & Tuckauvey –

Vide No. 4

Sibbendy &c for 1224	6540 . 40 . 12
Do 1225	9266 . 43 . 53
	15,007 . 30 . 65

Murraumut	5140 . 35 . 71
Tuccauvey	643 . 9 . 25
	5784 " 16
Total	21,591 . 39 . 1

8th. The Sibbendy Charges, must naturally be more considerable in a District in

which

212.1

which the Rents are received in kind than in the case of ready money Collection. Of this Circumstance Your Board must be so well acquainted that I will not venture to offer any remarks.

Vide No. 5.

9th. No. 5 is a revised Moyenzabitah which I beg to lay before You for Your Sanction, and to assure you, that I have endeavoured to keep in view a real Consideration of the least possible Expenditure in the realization of the outstanding Balances. The present number of Moneyars will be required throughout the year, as the Talook Servants are incapable of performing all the duties which arise from the present mode of receiving the Rents in kind; and while the Grain is gathering, an additional number will be requisite, but only for a time, they are therefore not now Entered in the Moyenzabitah.

Vide No. 6.

10th. With regard to the advances made by me for Murraumut, I have to state that they have chiefly arisen from the repair of the banks of the River / Ragoonauda Cauwairee / which in the rains gave way. This Accident by which a very considerable space of Ground would have been rendered unproductive called forth my immediate attention. Other small sums were distributed

On this River the Tanks upwards of ... Villages depend upon a supply of Water.

for

for the repair of different Tanks which had likewise suffered material damage from the excess of water -

vide No 7 — 11th In Statement No 7 is shewn the Quantity of Grain remaining unsold up to the end

A in No 7 — of December - In column 4 is the Quantity I have advanced to the Inhabitants as Tuccauvy; In acting thus, I have been guided by this motive; that as there was no demand for the Grain in the Market, and as I could obtain no offers of Contracts, it would be advantageous to dispose of it in any way with good security, rather than risque its destruction in the stores, and a precarious fluctu=:ation of its selling price - Having received very urgent Entreaties from the Ryots of some of the Talooks to grant them Tuccauvy by the advance of a Quantity of Grain to aid them in the extension of their Cultivation, I acceded upon the Condition that they would after harvest, repay this advance in Specie, according to the bowle price, at which the Grain that they were desirous of receiving was Estimated - In this, they most readily acquiesced and at the same time, gave ample Security for the fulfilment of their Engagements -

This

2-13

This measure therefore, will, I trust, meet with the approbation of your Board.

12th Another expence has been incurred on Account of the Elephants Camels &ca. I wish to receive your instructions as to the disposal of them. As these are necessary appendages to the rank of the Zemindar, it will be perhaps advisable to support them. There is also some property in Houses, which as I consider private, I do not think any measure should be adopted respecting them until the cause has been finally adjudged.

vide No. 8

13th The Chank fishery, as will be seen by the representation of Shaikh Mahomed Mercoir was rented to him for two years. As he is stated to have paid the Amount due for Fusly 1224th no Revenue derived from this branch for that Fusly has been brought to Account since the Assumption. This Agreement Anticipating the Revenue for Fusly 1225 being Contrary to Regulation XXVII. I have of course assumed the fishery for this Fusly, and having received no offers which I conceive consistent with its

vide Bond No. 9.

The Amount brought to Account is the sum Calculated to have been paid by the Mercoir to the Zemr. for 9/12 Months of Fusly 1224 commencing from October 1814 to the end of the fusly 1224.

its real value, I have continued it under Aumanee Management. The Sibbendy Charges which will be incurred on this Account are shewn in Statement No 10.

Vide No 10

14th With regard to Chaya root, the Statement No 10 will shew the Quantity collected & sold, and as I have been Equally unsuccessful in offers to rent this Article, I have kept it also under Aumanee. The Establishment that will be required on this Account will appear in Statement No 12.

Vide No 11

Vide No 12.

15th When the Country was assumed in March last, the selling price of Paddy was from 12 to 15 fanams ꝑ Cullom in the different Talooks. It has gradually fallen, and is now not more than 9 fanams ꝑ Cullom; indeed it may be expected to fall still lower, not only from the prospect of an abundant harvest, but from the cheapness of Grain in the Neighbouring Districts. Another Concurring Cause has contributed to this fall in the Market. Formerly a large Quantity of Grain was Exported to Ceylon, but of late years this practice has been discontinued.

The

It should be remarked that all charges hitherto for Fusly 1225 have been deducted from the proceeds of the sales of the Grain & Collections of Fusly 1224 -

× vide Col. 9 in No. 7

vide Col. 5 in B in No. 3.

16th The outstanding Balances up to the 31st December, against the Zemindary, are Star Pagodas 51,000 - - " for Fusly 1225 and Pagodas 63733 - - " for Fusly 1224 of this Amount ×16835 - 25 - 66 may be expected to be recovered from the sale of the Grain now in store, & Pags 3820 - 13 - 40 on Account of ready money Collections forming a total of Pagodas 20,665 - 39 - 26 which deducted from the above 63733 - - " will leave a Balance for Fusly 1224 of Pagodas 43077 - 5 - 54 - making a total of Pagodas 93,077 - 5 - 54 - To liquidate so large an Amount will require a long period - I see no prospect of accomplishing this object in less than three or four Years - Should the Zemindary be kept under Aumanee, whatever Excess of collection might occur in the present Year should be applied to the charges of Murramut and Tuccavey - The Tanks have been almost totally neglected of late Years - they are in a ruinous state, and I consider that a sum not less than 10,000 Pagodas will be requisite to Effect their proper repairs - The advance of Tuccavey to the Inhabitants would also be a Necessary Measure, for which purpose 6 or 7000 Pags will be required -

17th This Zemindary possesses great capabilities, and would by attention repay whatever

Expences

Expences might be incurred in its improvement — were it optional with me, I should feel little hesitation in recommending its being continued in a state of attachment; nor do I think I hazard too strong an Assurance in asserting, that in the event of common seasons, at the End of Fusly 1220 or at all Events 1224 this Country would not be in arrear to Government — To state precisely the Amount that I may expect to realize in this Fusly is impracticable at the present moment as the Rent for the most part will be paid in Kind — The various fluctuation in the price of Grain leaves me in a state of uncertainty as to the Actual Amount of Collection, but I conceive that it will not be less than in Fusly 1224 —

18th. As the accumulation of the Balances appear so considerable it might be deemed desirable by your Board to dispose of part of the Estate to lessen them —

19th. Attached to this Zemindary are 17 Talooks & should you direct that any number of them be disposed of, I would recommend the following —

2.15 .. 1 43

following 5.

1 Keelacaud
2 Caumencotay
3 Saulegraumom
4 Anoomantagoody
5 Gootaganaud
6 Oroor
in No 12. 7 Cottapatnam

The Amount revenue realized in each previous to the introduction of the Permanent settlement as well as subsequent to that is shewn in statement Nos 13 & 14 –

20th This measure if adopted will produce a considerable reduction in the Zemindary of Ramnad – it might perhaps be desirable to curtail its present extent – To make a large diminution will not I think be advisable, it would indeed, so materially contract the limits of the Zemindary as to render it scarcely worth holding to the party in whose favor it may finally be decreed –

21st I cannot say what sums may be expected to be realized from the sales of the above Talooks – should sales however to a greater extent be considered Absolutely Necessary I would recommend the disposal of the Chank fishery & Chaya root which I am led to believe

will

will fetch considerable prices at a public Auction -
The purchasers will pay the average Amount revenue
as is shewn in Statement No. 13 -

chauk 3667.36.67½
Naga tort 2263.35 37½

22d. With regard to the claims of
Khaka Mahomed Mercoir & others (whose Bonds
granted by the Ranee are translated and forwarded) (Nos. 15. 16. & 17.)
They leave to state to you the Customary mode of
proceeding in the Zemindary from which your
Board may be enabled to form conclusions as
to the degree of justice upon which their claims
are founded -

23d. The regulated Kists payable by the
Zemindars are seven, commencing in December
& Ending in June - Nearly the whole of the Grain
which is the chief product of the Country, is, as
I have before stated to you received in Kind -
To answer the ready money demands of the Circar
as the Zemindar could not at all times com-
-mand a Market for its disposal - It was
the practice to Mortgage the standing Crops in
a Talook at a reduced value, as the Bonds,
of the Mercoir & others will demonstrate - In
October 1814 and in February 1815 - it would
appear that the Ranee received from Mercair

and

and others, sums of money, in lieu of which she gave her Bonds in Conformity with the above practice, transferring the produce when cropp'd of certain Talooks in the Months of March April & May following at a rate lower than the then selling price of the Grain in the Market - Before these Bonds fell due the Country was assumed and the Circar share of the produce immediately attached - Regulation XXVII, of A. D. 1812 state, that all Actual agreements made for the purpose of anticipating the receipts of revenue from Lands liable to attachment are null & void - I cannot but confess that the case now laid before your Board strikes me as bearing very strongly upon the tenor of this Regulation - Should a Zemindar receive in October or February the revenues to be derived from the produce in March, April, & May, I can consider it no less than an Act of Anticipation of Revenue - if this Example be once admitted, there can be no Security as every Zemindar might resort to the above practice, and in the case of the attachment of their lands, many Claimants might come forward with similar Bonds to demand their execution at the risk of the just realization of the dues of

Government

Government. It would be needless in me to add further remarks – Your Board, will, I trust, be enabled, from what has already been stated, and from the accompanying documents to form an accurate opinion upon this subject –

24th. During my investigation I have discovered that the Rawnee Munglaiswaree Natchyar had granted Lands & Villages, a statement of which is now forwarded – No. 18. to be appropriated to the use of Bramins and Pagodas fixing only a small Poruppoo or rent on each – I request to be favored with your instructions as to their continuance although not granted in strict Conformity to Regn. XXV –

No. 18.

25th. The paper No. 19. is the Petition of Aunnapa pillay – as the Grant is for the support of a Covil it would perhaps be better to continue it –

No. 19.

26th. In the Management of the different Pagodas, great abuses are but too Evident – The late Pundarom of the Ramas-weram Pagoda – a Pagoda of considerable importance & renown seems to have been guided

in

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in all his actions more by the dictates of his own passions than a consideration of his religious duties. The lands granted for the use of the Pagodas have in consequence become much involved, the Ceremonies have been overlooked, and a proper regard to their decorum & respect been much neglected — this, I am sorry to add, applies but too truly to almost all the religious Establishments in Ramnad — I have in consequence assumed the Lands of all, & have appointed Circar Servants to manage them, as well as to see that the accustomed Ceremonies of each Pagoda are performed until I receive your instructions on this Head — The number

Vide No 20. of Villages appropriated to Church purposes appears to be 304 $^{9}/_{16}$ yielding a Revenue Estimated at Pa 1454 - 4 - 44 per Annum —

27th The many claimants to the produce of these Villages clearly shew how much the Revenue has been Anticipated — If the Lands be continued under attachment, I shall be enabled to discover how far they are just, as I have at present reason to believe that many Bonds have been granted without the knowledge of all parties concerned — such

claims

claims as may be found to be correct can be discharged from the surplus produce at the end of the Fusly—

28th In assuming these Lands, it has not been my wish to interfere in any way in the religious Ceremonies of the Country— On the contrary, my only object has been a desire to prevent the possibility of the proceeds of Pagoda Lands being misapplied & to observe, as in Madura, regularity & good order in their arrangements—

29th The Villages appropriated to the use of Chuttrums, are in Number 57 5/16 of the

vide No. 21. proceeds, little appears of late years to have been applied for the purposes for which they were granted; this, therefore calls for immediate attention— The Lands have been assumed, and Establishments appointed for their superintendance—

30th I cannot conclude without expressing my regret that your Board should have deemed it necessary to call upon me a second time for the statements now forwarded— I have only to add that the Accounts have proved so voluminous & the investigations necessary to Enable me to form any opinion upon

them

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them so complicated that the preparation of the abstracts have taken up a much longer period than I at first apprehended —

Dindigul 5th February 1818 } (Signed) R. Peter Collr

To the President and Members of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Para 1st I have the honor to forward a

No. 1. Statement showing the Balances against each Estate of the Minor Zemindaries —

2nd When I transmitted on the 22d July 1814 a Statement of Minors Pollams which I recommended to be assumed, I did it under a conviction that the Minors had been regularly reported to your Board, but as no such report appears on record in the office; I was mistaken —

Madoor Tavashymaday Combay. I shall therefore proceed to lay before you such information upon these Pollams as I am Enabled to obtain —

3rd In July 1810 when the Madoor Pollam, which is settled in perpetuity, was restored to Venkatsawmy Naick (after assumption for Arrears) he gave up the Management of it to

his

his Eldest son Teroomalay Venketsawmy Naick who died in July 1821 leaving a son Aged 10 Months who also died in the following year, since which period the Country has been continued under Aumanee as *Anunda obala Naick (the Brother of Teroomalay Venketsawmy Naick, from the Father being unwilling to take charge of it) was under Age. As there is a Balance of 4,860-44-69 against the Estate it has been assumed.

* He is now about 17 Years of age

4th I enquired from both Father & Son if they were willing to assign over their Estate to the Circar on being exonerated from all Balances, they hesitated & said, that the Company might keep it under their Management, if they would make some allowances to them for their support, but they did not like to resign all claim to an Estate which descended to them by hereditary right. This appears to be the case with most of the Zemdrs. they do not object to their Estates being taken under Aumanee Management, but they cannot bear the Idea of resigning all pretensions to Estates which have been in their family from time immemorial. It is this pride & feeling for their hereditary rights which make them object to

the

219 6581

the assignation required of them - The Estate has been assumed and I now await your further orders -

5th In Tavachymaday there is a Balance of Star Pagodas 1129. 21. 20. In Fusly 1209 the Zemindar died, leaving a son of about 7 Years of Age; since that Fusly the Istimrar kist has not been regularly paid and the Country in consequence is now under Assumption with a Sibbendy Establishment as is shewn in Statement No. 2.

No. 2

6th In Combay the Zemindar was recommended as a Minor in December 1805. There is at present a Balance against the Estate, amounting to Star Pagodas 4999. 1. 10. Last year he became of Age, and took charge of his Zemindary, the whole of the kists for which he has discharged; but as he considers it too highly Assessed, He is desirous of relinquishing his claims to it provided he may be released from all Arrears, and some small provision allow'd him, which I would recommend to be complied with -

Vide Mr. Parish's letter of the 11th December 1805

7th In Pulleapinaickenoor, a Pollam settled in perpetuity, a Balance of Star Pagodas 307. 8. 26. for last year only exists - When the Zemindar died, He was succeeded by the present Minor now 14 Years of Age, who was recommended

on

on the 22d July 1814 as a Ward of Court, and that Ragasoondren the person who acted in the Capacity of Karbar during the late Zemindars life time should superintend the Affairs of the Estate with which He was perfectly acquainted, and that Arnachellum pillay should be nominated his Guardian — Tho' there is a Balance of Star Pagodas 107 8.25 against the Estate, there can be no doubt of its being finally paid — I request therefore to be favored with your instructions as to its future Management —

8th Comaurawaudy is a temporary settled Pollam of Manapara, there is a Balance against it, of S.P. 2297. f. 23. c. 40. After the deposition of the Poligar, his Son by his first Wife succeeded to the Zemindary, who died in fusly 1219. He was succeeded by the Son of the second Wife who Managed it for some time, when he died without Issue — In fusly 1223 a Natural Son succeeded according to the Custom of the Country, and as he was a Minor, He was recommended to be taken under charge of the Court of Wards; but as there is a Balance against the Estate, it has been assumed —

9th Ramghery was recommended to be taken under Minor Management in 1806. for Mootoolaghery sawmy Naick who died in 1810. He

was

was succeeded by Ponnya Naick who died leaving a Son named Narrasimma Naick Aged 4 Years. On the 22d July 1814 it was proposed to put the Country under the Management of the Court of Wards, but as there is a Balance of 5,203 " 23 against it, it has been assumed—

10th Paucurom temporary settled is another Minor— against this Estate, there is no Balance, but as it has not been settled in perpetuity, Your Board may hesitate in taking it under the Court of Wards— but should you not I would recommend that Palanyandy pillay who was Karbar in his fathers life time, be continued in the Office; and that Sungulingom pillay be nominated his Tutor, & that the allowances to the family be regulated as mentioned in the Statement which Accompanied my letter of the 22d July 1814— The Minor is now about 13 Years of Age

11th I request to be favored with your instructions if a Malikana of 10 p^r cent is to be granted to the Minors whose Estates may be assumed similar to that which is allowed on the Assumption of the Estates of Zemindars whose Pollams are only temporarily assessed—

Dindigul 17th February 1816.

Signed R. Peter Collr.

Tr.

To the Chairman of the Committee
for Managing the Waterloo Subscription

Sir, Fort Saint George

I have the honor to forward a Register of the Sums of Money paid into my Treasury on Account of the Waterloo Subscription, together with an order on the Accountant General for its Amount —

Perreacolum 29th February 1816 (Signed) R. Peter Collr

To the President and Members of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to forward a plan & Estimate for Erecting Choultries or rather Bungalows for the Accommodation of Travellers in this District - they are 6 in Number on the High road leading from Trichinopoly to Quilon. To Erect any on the Cross roads, will I think be of little use, as they are not much frequented - the Estimate for Each Bungalow is 746. 2. 71. This is the outside, as the Engineer himself states

& I conceive if the sum 500 Pagodas is allowed for the Completion of each, it will be sufficient & a Pensioner can be left in charge of them - to whom an allowance of 1/2 Pagoda per Mensem can be made - there are many I have ascertained, will readily undertake the office - the under=mentioned are the places I am desirous of their being Erected -

Vizt
Coilpettah
Tourumcoorchy
Colamputty
Mellore
Madura
Teroomungalum -

Perreacolum 1st March 1816.

Signed R. Peter
Collr

To the President and Members
of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Para 1st I have the honor to acknow=ledge the receipt of your Secretary's letter dated 11th September, forwarding for my guidance & information the Copy of an address to the Right Honorable the Governor in Council on the

the subject of the Revenues of the District under my Charge on Account of Fuslies 1220. 1221. 1222 & 1223, and calling for Explanations on different points, which had not already been afforded. I shall therefore proceed to give the required information —

2d It was most fully my intention to have reported long ago on the Balances outstanding against the different Zemindars, but I awaited awhile in the hope that a favorable season might Enable them to discharge a portion of the Amount due by them, and make arrangements for the liquidation of the remainder; but in this hope, I have been disappointed as the seasons have been so adverse. I have now therefore the honor to forward a Statement exhibiting Balances outstanding of every description in these Districts, together with explanatory remarks as to the cause of their still remaining uncleared, and at the same time, stating what may hereafter be expected to be realized —

With

3rd. With regard to the Balances in the Madura District, it will on reference to the above statement be seen that the greater part for fuslies 1221. 22 & 23. is due from the Thooroombaor & Mellore Talooks - In these Talooks, in addition to the crowds of people who were carried off by the fever, many have perished from the inveterate attacks of the small pox which raged with much violence in some Villages until checked by the interference of the Superintendent of Vaccination; added to which, few of the Tanks in these Divisions, as I have stated to your Board, are filled from the river Vygay, but are dependant on the periodical rains for their supply, the Crops in consequence destroyed in them for want of irrigation were more extensive than in other Talooks - A great portion of the Balances now remaining unpaid arises from the debts of persons who have fallen sacrifices to these diseases, and whose property has been found unequal to defray the demands against them -

4th. Although the Settlements of Madura formed in fuslies 1221. 22 & 23. are

lower

lower than in former years, yet, What has not this District suffered to counteract the best measures for the attainment of its prosperity? Sufferings scarcely to be conceived, from a fever, against which, the Native could produce no remedy- against which, the Extraordinary exertion of European skill could scarcely avail, & even to this day is not satisfactorily accounted for- sweeping away whole families, & desolating whole Villages at a time, & followed by a drought which presented to these unfortunate inhabitants all the distresses of a scarcity by the destruction of their Crops- Upon a consideration of these circumstances, your Board will, I am assured feel, that a realization of Revenue equal to days of prosperity could not be expected—

5th In Dindigul, the revenue has advanced more progressively towards its proper standard than in Madura - the relative situation of the two Countries should be regarded - The one surrounded on all sides by hills derives the advantages of its peculiar situation & partakes of the Western Monsoon- the other for the most

part

part is an open Country and derives no benefit from that Monsoon, unless indeed, it is in a few Villages by the occasional coming down of a small portion of water in the Vygay river —

In fusly 1223 when the Drought was so excessive in Madura, only Pagodas 1721 . 27 . 49 on Account of Shavee was required to be remitted in Dindigul, while in Madura, no less a remission than Pagodas 11715 . 9 . 69 was necessary, and I feel that I should not have acted wrong in remitting a still greater sum in the particular Talooks of Shoroombour & Mellore — Upon this conviction, I have refrained from being too urgent in Collecting the Balances against them —

Nunjeh Shavee	843 . 17 . 75
Punjeh do	878 . 9 . 64
	1721 . 27 . 49

Nunjeh Shavee	11018 . 4 . 49
Punjeh do	697 . 5 . 20
	11715 . 9 . 69

6th As the Calamities which have befallen these Districts, were not anticipated at the time of forming the Triennial rent, the Collections may certainly have contributed in some degree to distress the inhabitants — I think however that every consideration for their Welfare was shewn in the subsequent advances of Tuccavey —

7th The chief causes of the Balances & decrease in Cultivation in my opinion are —

First

First - the great losses the different Talooks sustained in their Inhabitants from fever, and Secondly - the very unfavorable seasons which have successively Ensued. Since fusly 1220 rain in almost every instance failed to fall in proper time for Punjah Cultivation, and even in this Fusly (1225) there was not a shower from the end of August to the middle of September, a time when rain is most desired for this kind of Culture & on reference to the different Jummabundy Statements, it will be seen, that the chief falling off in the Revenue has been occasioned by the decrease in Punjah Cultivation & not in the Nunjah -

8th. I have invariably made it a rule, during these adverse seasons to direct the Tahsildars not to be too urgent in their demands on the Inhabitants for their Kists, and if they could dispose of their Grain to advantage by keeping it a while, to give them time to do so, this measure has caused the Balance at the end of the Fusly to be large.

large, but (with the exception of Mellore and Shooroomboor, as I have already stated) has reduced them to the trifle they are at present—

9th I will here take the opportunity of replying to your Secretary's letter of the 22d May 1815 relative to the increasing the number of Kists at present paid—I have made particular enquiry on this subject, and have been most anxious to ascertain the wishes & sentiments of all classes of people, without prejudice—the opinions have been various of course, but on a due Consideration of the whole, I do not think it would be advisable to extend them, as if Grain should be cheap, & the Inhabitants should be unable to find a Market for it, a little time may be easily granted to them to dispose of it to advantage, which would sufficiently answer every purpose that could be required—

10th The causes of the Balances in the

Dindigul— 24 assumed Estates are explained in Statement No 1— The Village of *Maunoor was burnt down in July 1815 & as the Inhabitants lost the greater part of their property I fear there will

*in Calyemputoor Estate No 8. of Iyemputty Division

will be some difficulty in realizing the whole of the Balance due by them –

11th With regard to the temporary Settled Pollams, I have the honor to forward Statements shewing the value of each, exclusive & inclusive of all alienations – Of the 14th in Dindegul the Peshcush of 37237 – 31 – 56 (SP. f. c.) was adjusted by Mr. Hurdis – Since which the above sum has been considered the Istemrar, and the Amount collected from each is demonstrated in Statement No. 4 –

Vide Statements No. 2 & 3.

Col. 49 vide Statement No. 2

Vide Statement No. 4.

12th Against Cunnewaudy there appears a Balance of 1481 – 41 – 53 (SP. f. c.) This Sum which has arisen partly for Charges Sibbendy while under sequestration for arrears, the Zemindar has given an agreement to discharge in the course of fuslies 1226 & 27 and when the havoc the fever has made is considered, and the consequent loss of so many Cultivators, it cannot be deemed a large Balance – I would therefore recommend, that if at the End of the present Fusly there is no Balance

out-

outstanding for this year, that the time prayed for, may be allowed, and that the regular Kaboo-leat Istemrari Mulkeat be granted to him—

13th In Aegoody, Maumbarah, Ammeanaeckenoor, Badyenaickenoor, Tavaurom, & Yerrachechanaickenoor, there are no Balances but in Vadagherry & Guntomanaickenoor there is a small Balance of 6 St. Ps. 11. 9 in the former, and 65-13-20 for fuslies 1221 & 22 in the latter which will be collected — should these Pollams have no Balances at the end of the present year, I propose that the Peshcush fixed by Mr. Hurdis shall be the permanent & that a Kabooleat Istemrar be granted accordingly

14th In Yemklapoorem and Tavaohymaday there is a Balance of 2006-40-46 in the former, and Star Pagodas 189. 21. 20 in the latter — these have been resumed, and the Sibbendy requisite will be seen in Statement No. 6 —

Vide Statement No. 6.

15th In Ammaterray there is a Balance of 1316-32-13 — As this Amount became due during the Zemindars Minority,

and

with the exception of P° 1 . 12 . 55. — and as he has discharged his kists for the two last fuslies since he became of Age, and was put in charge of the Estate, I beg leave to recommend that he may be permitted to liquidate it in

Vide No. 5. — 5 Years according to his Engagement, & that Pagodas 1153 - 19 - 23 be fixed, as the Permanent Settlement of his Pollam —

16th In Doddyencotah the Balance is 171 - 11 - 62 for fusly 1224 and as he has discharged the whole of the kists of the preceding years, I beg to recommend that his Engagement

Vide No. 5. — may be accepted for its discharge in fusly 1226 -

17th In Combay the Balance is S. Pagodas 4999 - 1 - 10. and altho' the Zemindar has discharged the whole of the kists for fusly 1224 (the only year in which he was in possession of it after a period of Minority) yet as he considers it too highly assessed, and is desirous of relinquishing his claims to it provided he may be released from all arrears, and some small provision allowed him, I would recommend that his wish be complied with —

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18th As Mr. Hurdis had not completed the Survey of the 6 Pollams of Manapara, they were finished by his successor Mr. Parish in Fusly 1213 and the Peshcush then fixed was S. Pags 27726-35-15 which has been considered the permanent settlement of those Pollams—

Manapara

Col. 40. in Statemt No. 2.

19th With the exception of Cadawoor, there is a Balance in all the Pollams—

20th In Comauawaddy the Balances for Fusly's 1223 & 24 Amounts to Pags 2297-23-42 This, as I have stated in my letter of the 22d July 1814 is a Minor Zemindary, but owing to the Balances, it has been assumed— The young Zemindar is about 15 Years of Age & I deem it right to state, that his Guardians & relations offer to discharge the Balances outstanding provided the Country be given up to them— It has undoubtedly suffered much from fever, but as the Assessment is Moderate, I have but little doubt that the Balance will soon be recovered—

21st In Marangaupoory there is a

Balance

Balance of S.P. 3500 - 10 - 7 for fusly 1223 - the Zemin-
-dar has Entered into Engagements to discharge
vide No. 5. the Amount in 3 Years. This, I hope will be
acceded to, and should no further Balance
remain for the present fusly, I would recom-
-mend that a Kabooleat Istemrar be granted
to him -

22.d In Veeramalay the Balance
for fuslies 1223 & 24, is Pagodas 2505 - 10 - 50 -
This Amount the Zemindar has engaged to
vide No. 5. discharge in 5 fuslies - This I hope will
likewise be granted, for, when it is taken
into consideration, how much these Zemin-
-daries have suffered from drought & fever,
and how well they have discharged their
kists, it must be acknowledged that they
are deserving of indulgence - Should this
be acceded to, a Kabooleat Istemrar-i
Mulkeat should be given to him -

23.d Against Togamalay there is
a Balance of S.P. 303 - 24 - 30. As no Engagement
has been Entered into by the Zemindar it has
been assumed -

Ramghurry

227 654

24th Ramgherry is a Minor and as there is a Balance of Pagodas 3203" 23 against it, it has been assumed—

25th The assessment on the above six Pollams appears to me to be just, & to have been regulated with a due consideration to the right & Welfare of the owners— Had it not been for the unfortunate drought and dreadful Endemic, the Kists would have discharged with ease and regularity—

26th Of the six Estates permanently Settled, three have fallen in arrears— viz.t Iyaloor, Battalagoontah & Mailmungalom, and as all the Mittadars have given in their assignments of their Estates to the Circar, provided they be released from all Balances against them, they have been assumed— Of the three remaining Estates, the Kists have been regularly discharged— (Rettyembaudy, Vailoor, Kullymunthay.)

27th Of the six Pollams permanently Assessed, Four, are in Arrears— viz.t Madoor, Sundyoor, Nellacotta & Pulleapandaikenoor— the latter only for last year in Pag.s 307—0—26.

The

The other three have been assumed as I formerly notified to you, but as the Zemindar of Sundy... & Mallacotta appear reluctant to resign all claims to their Estates, as their representations

Vide No. 7 & 8. now forwarded will shew on Account of their being hereditary - I request to receive your instructions as to putting them up to Sale to be purchased in by the Circar, as should the Pollams be restored, I am convinced of the inability of the parties to fulfil their Engagements - The Zemindar of Madoor is a Minor,

Vide Report of the .. February 1816. but he objects on the same principle -

28th In Eddiacottah & Sookamputty there are no Balances -

29th Of the 10 Pollams in Madura temporarily settled, the Amount Peshcush appears to have been finally arranged by Survey by Mr. Hurdis in the early part of Fusly 1213. the Amount fixed was Pags.

Col. 49 in Statement No. 3. 7969 & 74 - which has been considered the Peshcush since that Fusly -

30th Of the above, Five are in arrears -

718 656

arrears list Valeapretty, Mailacotta, Nadoscotta Jothetnaickenoor, and Woottapanaickenoor. In the former Zemindary Pagodas 316. 6. 3 are due the small Balance 13. 41. 3. for fuslies 1222 & 24 will be collected immediately, but that for fusly 1223 they may lay over for the present & that the Zemindar be permitted to discharge

Vide No. 5 it according to his Agreement in 4 Years. This Zemindary in common with others, has lost a large portion of its Inhabitants and as the Possessor has discharged ~~has discharged~~ his Kists with tolerable regularity, with the exception of one year, he is deserving of Consideration.

31st. In Mailacotta & Nadoscotta the Balance is Pagodas 249. 40. 1. against the former for fuslies 1223 & 24 & Pagodas 100. 21. 54 against the latter. As these Zemindars have come to no agreement the Country has been assumed, and the Sibbendy required is shewn in Statement No. 6.

32d. In Jothetnaickenoor, there is a Balance for fuslies 1220 & 21. of Ps. 247. 12. 4.

The

the Zemindar has agreed to discharge this in 3 Years, which I hope will be acceded to —

vide No 5.

33rd. In Woottapanaickenoor, the Balance is 335-37-6 - the Zemindar has agreed to dis-charge this Amount in 3 Years which I hope will also be sanctioned —

The Amt. of fusly 1224 - 81. 11. 30. has been paid & leaves the Balance 253. 37. 30.

vide No 5.

34th. In [illegible]lyencolum, Velleacoondum Seroopaulay, Keelacotta & Doddapanaickenoor there are no Balances with the exception of P. 9-59 c. in the former which will be collected —

35th. With regard to the future Management of the Country, your Board may rest assured, that no vigilance on my part shall be wanting to restore it to its former state of prosperity, but as I before have said, and must now repeat, it must take time, for the loss of Inhabitants has been much too great to be immediately replaced —

36th. With regard to the exact Pr Centage it will be advisable to reduce the assessment in Dindigul - it may be averaged in Toddycomboo in some Villages

from

from 25 to 30 ₱Cent. I had prepared Tables of some of the Divisions reducing the Teerwah of Mr Hurdis without classing the Soil — this appeared to me a very unsatisfactory mode of proceeding, and left an opening to Complaints but by assessing the Soil according to its different [illegible]lations, which has never yet been regularly accomplished in this Province (Dindigul) such an opening can be avoided, and as I have received your permission to do so, I am now Employed in the work, and as soon as some Villages are Completed I will forward the result to you —

37th. The difference of the few fanams is in the Exchange of 42 & 45 ₱s ₱ Pagoda —

Palaney 22d March 1816 — (Signed) R. Peter Collr —

P.S. No Investigation has yet taken place regarding the Cardamom Hills as to what is to be considered the boundary between Travancore & Dindigul District —

To

To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to forward a Statement of Tuccavee required for these Districts for Fusly 1225.

The amount I trust will receive your Sanction, as the Inhabitants have suffered considerably this year, from rain not having fallen in season for their dry Crop.

Palamcottah 24th March 1816.

Signed R. Peter
Collr.

To the Accountant General
Fort St. George

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated 10th Inst. & will despatch accordingly, one Lac & fifty thousand Pagodas to the Presidency as soon as I am furnished with a Guard, for its Escort.

Palamcottah 25th March
1816.

Signed R. Peter
Collr.

To

To the Officer Commanding
Southern Division of the
Army

Sir,

I request, that you will be so good as to direct a Guard of such strength as you [illegible] deem necessary, to Escort 150,000 Pagodas to the Presidency — to attend at the Treasury in the Fort of Madura at as early a period as possible —

Palaney 25th March 1816 — (Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

To the President and Members
of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Para 1st. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Secretary's letter dated 9th Instant, transmitting, the Copy of a letter from the Secretary to Government, with its Enclosures, and directing me to report on all the Circumstances of the prisoner Luckya Naigk's case, and to state whether any objection exists to his release —

On

2nd. On Examination of the records of this office, it would appear that Leckya Naig was guilty of certain Murders in the Village Carmagoundenputty of Veeramalay Pollam (which occasioned his apprehension in that year) an account of which was transmitted to your Board by Mr Powney on the 5th of March in A. D. 1795.* The Polygar was confined in the Fort of Trichinopoly, and having represented to Colonel Floyd that his health was considerably effected by Confinement, his representation was forwarded by that Officer to Government when Mr Powney received letter No. 1. from Mr Secretary Webbe and returned No 2. as his reply, in Conse-quence of which, it would appear that the Polygar was removed to Vellore A. D. 1796 - from whence he made his Escape in the same Year. He was not again apprehended until A. D. 1805. when Mr Parish having gained infor-mation of the Place of his Concealment in the Trichinopoly District, applied to the Acting Magistrate for his seizure, which accordingly took place — He has remained in Confinement ever since —

*Note — this is not to be found in the office the records indeed about this time are very imperfect —

vide Enclosures No 1. & 2.

When

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3d

When the Polygar Luckya Naig escaped from Vellore, report stated that he was offered the Command of some Horse & Peon by the Sultaun of Mysore - I however cannot ascertain that he ever held any such Command - It would appear from the Correspondence that passed [illegible] Mr. Hurdis & Major Lindsay that he was connected with the disaffected Polygars in the Years 1798-9. His son was put in possession of the Zemindary in 1796 -

4th

With regard to his release from Confinement I cannot conceive that it would be attended with any danger to the public peace upon the principle proposed by the Magistrate The grant of an Allowance to the Polygar for the performance of the Marriage Ceremonies of his Children, I beg to leave Entirely to the Consideration of your Board -

Palaney 26th March 1816.

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

To

To the President and Members
of the
Gentlemen, Board of Revenue

It is with feelings of sincere regret, I have to report to your Board that the Fever is making its appearances again in some parts of these D[illegible] and tho' I am led to believe, that many people have not as yet perished from it. Yet if it continues to increase, there is no calculating the Consequences. As soon as I receive further reports from the different Public servants, I shall hasten to lay them before your Board.

Dindigul 30th March 1816. } (Signed) A. Peter Coll.

To the President and Members
of the
Gentlemen Board of Revenue

Para 1st. Having discovered, that there is a Species of wood in the Jungle, called Caut Ummanech, or wild Oil Tree, of such a nature & size, as to enable persons desirous of avoiding the duties on Cloths to imitate with considerable plausibility, the form & outlines of the Chop now in

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use in these Districts - I beg leave to recommend to your Board, the adoption of some other of a different Form -

2d The following I believe to be the practise for the attainment of the purposes of fraud - A stick of the necessary dimensions is Cut & immediately applied to the Cloth - Its impression leaves [illegible] similar to that of the Chop, & with the Sap of the wood, the other points of imitation, are accomplished - add to this, with a Common Cash, particularly in the case of the Old Chops, persons attempt & I have no doubt frequently with success, to delude the observation of the Sayer Servants -

3d Circumstances of a doubtful Nature have of late occured to confirm me in the Opinion that persons have resorted to these fraudulent practises - although I have not been able to Obtain proof sufficiently strong, to induce me to send them before a Magistrate -

4th I would beg therefore to recommend that a New Chop be made as Simple & Distinct as possible, & that it be inscribed with the English Characters in printed Capitals alone, & that the Number of each Chowkey throughout the District be successively notified on it - The inclosed Form may perhaps be the best

which

which is of the dimension at present in use or
Vizt. one Inch in diameter—

Dindigul 1st. April 1816— (Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

To the Commissioners—

Gentlemen—

Para 1st. I have [illegible] honor to forward the
Statements in the [illegible] transmitted by you
for the different Talooks & Zemindaries as p.
List. These I should have sent before had I
not been disappointed in the receipt of
Statements from some of the Zemindars,
who from not having prepared them in the
Forms required, have obliged me to return them—

2. Statement No. 1 is not applicable to
this District—

Statement No. 2. 3d. My Opinion so completely coincides
with Mr. Parish's report to the Police Committee,
dated 10th. July 1805, that I beg leave to send you
the following Extracts from it, in doing which,
I feel that it is impossible for me to convey
more information on the subject of the 3d. Para:
:graph of your letter—

5th. The Hindoo tradition of every Circum:
"stance connected with their Government in
"these Countries, sets forth the most perfect
"model of administration; amongst other
subjects

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"subjects it is recorded, that the Police Establish-
"ment of those times afforded ample security
"to persons & property, as well by the prevention
"of Crimes, as the speedy apprehension of Offenders
"but how far such a record, drawn up by
"Individuals on the hearsay of others, & founded
"on no public Authority is entitled to Credit, or
"remain[s] [wi]th the Committee to judge —

"6th If the Police was conducted (which
"I doubt much) with some regard to the public
"welfare previous to the extinction of the Hindoo
"Government, it is nevertheless to be supposed
"but that the Total want of Efficiency in the
"Nabobs administration must in the course
"of 70 years, have entirely perverted its original
"institution —

"7th Whatever restrictions may have existed
"during the Hindoo Government to insure the
"fidelity & vigilance of Cavolgars, they are
"not to be traced in the late state of the Police
"My own opinion of the general inefficiency
"of that System, and the concurrent testimony
"of the Oldest inhabitants, that it has undergone
"no visible change of either marked relaxation
"or increased vigilance within their recollection
"induces me to forbear troubling the Committee
"with any detailed Explanation of the Compara-
"tive degree of protection the Police afforded,
under

"under former Governments — Convinced that at
"no period of time, the duties attached to the
"Cavolgar's Office, however inadequate to
"ensure perfect Security, have been more or
"Efficiently executed, than since the extinction
"of the Nabobs Authority in this Province —

"8th. This fav[illegible]le change in the
"Regulation of the [illegible] is not however to
"be solely attribute[illegible] the vigilance of
"European Authority, for altho prompt and
"decisive measures might in a certain degree
"have checked the outrages daily committed
"by colleries on the high road and in the
"Villages still that alone would not have
"been sufficient to Eradicate the Evil with:
:out additional Means of Enforcing respect
"to our Laws — It therefore became necessary
"to form an Establishment of Sibbendy peons
"who were spread over the Districts and
"supported in the execution of their Duty by
"vigilant Revenue Servants, and which soon
"restored that degree of Security in the Country
"which had not been known to exist for
"many years whilst the Cavolgars exercised
"the important Office of Police —

"9th. It would answer no good purpose
"to repeat in this place the opinions which have
uniformly

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"uniformly been expressed by persons who from
"their Situation had an opportunity of Judging
"of the general Character & Conduct of the Cawolgars
"in the Southern Countries — My own Sentiments
"upon this Subject, are, that the Cawolgars were
"the only robbers by profession — that instead
"of preventing by their Authority the Commission
"of Cri[illegible] they were in close connexion with
"the [illegible] and if not personally concerned in
"Acts of aggression on the lives & property of
"the Inhabitants, that they received a portion
"of the stolen property as the price of their
"forbearance to bring the Offenders to justice —
"that the ascendancy which the Cawolgars had
"in consequence obtained over the Colleries rendered
"their continuance in Office unsupported by
"other Checks, an Object of public Alarm, nor
"that any utility could be ever expected to arise
"from their Employment unless those measures
"which have been adopted, in this Country for
"keeping a watchful Eye over their Conduct,
"continues the rule of our action — In their
"present Situation of restraint, they are incap:
:able of doing material injury, because whene:
"ver the Cawolgars are Employed it is always
"in a Subordinate Situation Acting under
"Police Officers immediately appointed by
"myself and in this Capacity their local

"Knowledge and general Acquaintance with the "Characters of the People, renders them useful "instruments in the hands of Government"

4th. With regard to Potails, no such class of people exists in this District, or are at least known, by that denomination — The Heads of Villages are termed [illegible]unkars, a great number of whom are tota[illegible]able of writing or reading, and are [illegible] dependent upon the Carnums of their Villages for the correctness of their accounts &ca. & in fact for every thing that relates to the Village — These I certainly cannot consider fit persons to decide on the Claims and disputes of individuals — Besides I never have known decisions by Arbitration prove Satisfactory — Such as I have ever attempted have invariably been appealed by the parties against whom a Decree may have been passed and the Arbitrators accused of bribery &ca.

Statement No. 3

5th. In No. 4 I have entered such as are willing and most fit to undertake the duties of Police

vide No. 4.

Dindigul 4th. April 1816 — (Signed) R. Peter Collr.

To the Accountant General

Sir Fort St. George

At the request of [illegible] Son of the late [illegible] Subidar I beg to forward

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forward a Treasury acknowledgement for 67000 Rupees & as he has no agents at Madras, shall be obliged by your remitting the Amount of Interest due, by an order on my Treasury —

Sholavandan 17th April 1811 — (Signed) R. Peter Collr

To the President and Members of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen

Para 1st I regret to say that the fever has not at all abated since I last addressed you but has rather increased in the Madura District. The deaths have not been nearly so numerous as formerly — but upwards 1000 have already perished & several thousands are at present sick — & unless some change takes place in the Weather shortly I fear the numbers will be still greater. I would therefore propose, that the Assistant Surgeons at Dindigul & Madura, be authorized to Entertain six or more Natives (according to the extent of the fever) & to teach them the mode of treating it. that these be distributed in those parts of the district where the fever is most prevalent & that they be supplied with such European Medicines as may be Consider:ed by the Medical Gentlemen the best adapted to relieve the suffering Inhabitants —

2d

2d I must at the same time beg to suggest that a Due & proper consideration be made by the Superintendent of the Medical Department of this Division, in the Supply of Medicines for this Zillah – & I feel that your Boards recommendation would have consider:able Effect in promo[illegible] this object –

3d I have p[illegible] that the prepossessions of the Natives in favo[illegible] own prescriptions have given way to their experience of the bene:ficial Effects derived in very many instances from the operation of the European Medicine – I consider the extinction of any prejudice, that can promote their welfare, an important Object – The Article of the greatest efficacy in subduing this fatal disorder is Bark – and I hope that the indents of the assistant Surgeons in these districts be Complied with in this Article in particular to the fullest Extent – As it would be advisable I think for the Medical Gentlemen themselves to visit parts of the District occasionally – I beg to suggest to you that some small allowance such as Palanquin Allowance for instance be granted to them to enable them to under:take such journeys without Loss to them:selves –

(Signed) A. Peter
Collr

Sholavandan 26th April 1816 –

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To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to forward a Statement of the Articles Exported & Imported at the [illegible] Cutter Choukey for the Year 1815/16 - They [illegible] little in Quantity & Quality from those of former Years, that I have no particular Observations to offer on the Occasion —

Ramnad 24th May 1816 — (Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

Similar to the reporter of External Commerce

To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Para 1st. I am happy to inform you that the report of the Tahsildars on the state of the fever, are now more favorable than I was led to anticipate, when I addressed your Board on the Subject —

2d. This fortunate change may be attributed to the Showers which have fallen in the different Talooks - and to which by their beneficial Effects on the climate have tended to the relief of the suffering Inhabitants —

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

Ramnad 8th June 1816 —

To the President and Members

of the

Board of Revenue

Gentlemen

Para 1st. I have the honor to forward a Plan and Estimate for Erecting Choultries or rather Bungalows for the [illegible]modation of both European & Nati[illegible]lers in this District they are six in Num[illegible] the high road leading from Trichinopoly to Quilon — To erect any on the cross roads, will I think, be of little use —

2d. The Estimate for Each Bungalow is Ps. 746 - 2 - 71. This is very outside indeed. I conceive, if the sum of 600 Pagodas be allowed for the completion of each, it will be sufficient, and a Pensioner can be left in charge of them, to whom an allowance of ½ Pagoda P. Mensem can be made — There are many I have ascertained who will readily undertake the Office —

3d. The undermentioned are the places I am desirous of their being Erected

Vizt. Coilputty
Cottampatty
Towerunencurchee
Mellore
Madura
Tirumungalum

At

At Coilputty & Cottampatty --- } There are no accomodations whatever for Travellers, some kind of building is absolutely necessary –

At Tourencourchee – there is a small Choultry but it can accomodate but few people and is in a very bad state –

At [illegible] – there is an Old Bungalow [illegible]n such a ruinous State as to require thorough repair –

At Madura & Trimungalom – } There is no accommodation for an European Traveller – a building therefore of some kind is much wanted –

Ramnad 14th June 1816 -- } (Signed) R. Peter Collr –

To the President and Members of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Para 1st. I have now the honor to forward to your Board the Statements required of the Amount paid by the Purchasers of the Estates in Dindigul for Fuslies 1214, 15 & 16 –

vide Statement No. 1. 2 & 3.

2. In Fusly 1214 it would appear from the reports of Mr. Parish that the Estates in Dindigul were disposed of by Auction to the highest

highest bidders, and that with exception of two Estates, the whole of the kists due by them for that Fusly, notwithstanding the untoward effects of an unfavorable Season were by various means duly discharged –

3d. As the Zemindars were put in possession of their Estates upon their fulfil:ment of the Con[illegible] Sale, they formed a Jummabundy [illegible] respective Zemin:daries, of which no accounts were obtained, but it cannot be doubted from the nature of the Season that it was less than the Istemrar – The Statement No. 1. shews the Amount collected for this Fusly –

Vide No. 1.

4th. The Statement No. 2 exhibits the Amount collected by the Zemindars for Fusly 1216 compared with that paid into the Treasury as prepared by Mr. Parish in a report to your Board of the 24th April 1807 whose observations & remarks contained in the following paragraphs of that letter, I now beg to lay before you.

Vide No. 2

49th. "The different periods at which "a great proportion of Estates were assumed "in Fusly 1215 – and the irregularity which "prevailed in the whole Revenue manage:"ment of the Zemindars during that year or "prevent me submitting to you any satisfac:"tory document of the Cultivation which or

shall

238. 476 477

"shall correspond with the Annual Collections
"My remarks upon this Subject must there
"fore be confined to the Revenue actually
"realized as pr examination of the Village or
"Accounts-

"Permanent Jummah.............99,985–30–7
"Actual Jummah.......87,593–11–75.
"Paid [illegible] Treasury.......75,035–9–17
"Bala[illegible] [illegible]st the
"Zem[illegible] as pr
"actual Jummah.......11,804–26–10.
"Ditto against the Ryots.......753–17–78.
87,593–11–75.

"Balance against the Zemindars...
" as pr Permanent Jummah.........12066–37–6

"50th In Order to account for the Balance
"against the Zemindars, it is necessary that
"I should revert to the Situation in which
"they were placed during that year, having
"numerous private creditors to satisfy, who
"had enabled them to fulfil their Engagements
"in Fusly 1214 – To my perfect knowledge those
"Zemindars who held an interest in the
"Country in Fusly 1214 are yet so deeply involved
"that our demands against them form but
"a small proportion of their private debts – This
"unfavorable result of the first years Settlement
"must not only be attributed to the Season, but
"also to the Characters of the people who purchased
"the Estates in addition to the Circumstance of being
"placed in possession just when the first Kist of
the

vide Letter to the Board 2d Para 31st July 185.

"the year became due — In most instances
"Strangers in the Country, the Zemindars were
"no less at a loss how to regulate their demands
"than the inhabitants were active in taking
"advantage of their ignorance and had I not
"deemed it my duty Early to interfere by a
"general assumption of the Estates the Balance
"against the Zemind[...] [...]ld not have been
"confined to so sma[...] [...] as now appears due —
"51st. With referen[...] the foregoing Explana:
"tions, I trust it will appear that the Balance of
"Revenue against the Zemindars in Fusly 1215
"is not so considerable as might have been
"Expected to accrue, whilst at the same time
"I ought to remark that no allowance is here
"made for their Charges Sibbundy, nor Even
"their own Subsistence, the Statement referred
"to, shewing only the Amount actually Collected
"from each Estate within the year 1215"

5th. From the Sentiments expressed in the above Extract I am persuaded that the restoration of the Amount of the Sales of these Estates is founded on the present principle. If the defaulting individuals were excited to incur private debts to defray their Kists of which in Fusly 1215 "the Demands of Governmt. formed but a small part" and if experience has but too unfortunately proved that an excess of impost had occurred in a System formed with intentions the most beneficial, a reparation according to the Directions of your Board it will

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will be my particular Object to Effect.

6th. The Names of the Purchasers are as follows -

Vide Statt. No. 4

Sevyah who purchased Vadasendoor, Toddycombo & Adeanoot for Star Pags. 30 is dead and it is not known that any one of his Relations is living - He was a low Speculating character - Soobah Naick [illegible] purchased Erreode Coilatoor & Iyaloor for [illegible] was an inhabitant but is now Dead [illegible] his Nephew about 13 years of age now living and residing at Vimberputty -

Vailuppa naick who purchased Allynagarum & Aundy putty for Star Pagodas 1340 - - - - is dead - He has left a Son who is Zemindar of Guntapanaickenoor -

Appaujee Gounden who purchased Woottumpolla Chinnamanoor & Cumbom for Star Pagodas 600 - is Dead. His Elder Brother Chakana Gounden is now alive and now at Combay -

Appiah naick who purchased Aptoor, Dewa-dauna putty & Veeroopatchee for Star Pagodas 3000 is Dead His Son is Zemindar of Ennuvaddy -

Teroovaunvenomgoody pillay who purchased Iyempully Calyempootoor, Coreecadavo, Keernoor, Vaugaray, Vailumputty & Kettyembaudy for Star Pagodas 800 was Nephew to the Karbar of the Poligar of Palamey - He is dead and has left two Wives, but no Children -

Narrainsawmy Naick who purchased Murnoor Coottumpoondy & Perreacotta for Star Pagodas 450

was

was an inhabitant — He is dead, but his younger Brother Nullasawmy naick is now living at Shitaypaudy —

Achal naick who purchased Vadamadura Estate for Star Pagodas 140 is an inhabitant and still in existance —

Mooto Comaur wh[illegible]chased Tenkaray Estate for Star Pagodas [illegible] Karbar — He is dead, and has lef[illegible] he resides in Poom:bachenaichinoor [illegible]dary in Tinnevelly —

Gopee naick who purchased Gungoovarpatty for Star Pagodas 700 — was Zemindar of Sundyoor and is still living — His Zemindary is assumed —

Numpermaul Naick who purchased Vailoor & Kullymunthy for Star Pagodas 250 — was an inhabitant, He is now dead and his Son is living with his Brother Permaul Naick who is now in possession of the two Estates —

Chengooyyer who purchased Mailmunglum for Star Pagodas 150 is an inhabitant and still living —

Soolappa naick who purchased Kuttalagonta for Star Pagodas 700 — was Zemindar of Nellacotta & is still living — His Zemindary is assumed

Kullyan who originally purchased Paula:kistnapooram Estate for Star Pagodas 110 in Fusly 1216 was a Servant, He is still living and resides at Pethoonaickanpollam in Salem —

7th Of the above purchasers [illegible] held Zemin:daries — two Nellacottah & Sundyoor permanently settled

Nellacotta	15266. 27. 44.
Sundyoor	4193. 36. 32.
Connewaddy	5282. 4. 53.
Guntamanaickenoor	763. 16. 72
	25.505. 40. 41.

Memo.

Connewaddy Bal.e up to Fusly 1224.		1451. 44. 53.
D.o up to June in 1225.		4347. 39. 69.
Coll.n	551. 18. 29.	
Deduct Abbend	33. 31. 40.	517. 31. 69.
		3830. 8. ..
[illegible]l		5282. 4. 53.

Settled; and two Connewaudy and Guntamanaick-oor temporarily settled — Against these, there is a Balance, amounting to Star Pagodas 25.505. 40. 41. and I beg to be informed, if I am to carry the Amount of their purchase money to liquidate in part what may be due [illegible]tem; as the arrear has not accrued from the Esta[illegible] they purchased, but from their own Zem[illegible]s. — The best mode of carrying into effect the liberal intention of the Honorable Court of Directors towards the remainder, would I think be, to restore the money at once to the original purcha-sers or to their relations, whoever may still be in existence.

8.th With regard to the Estates purchased by the Poligars in 1214 not one of them is at present in their possession, they all having been assumed for arrears.

(Signed) R. Peter Coll.r

Ramnad 27.th June 1816.

To The President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Para 1.st I had, the day before yesterday, the honor to receive your Secretary's letter dated 24.th

ap.t 27.th June, and beg to assure your Board that I have

been

been using every exertion to complete the Sub-division of the Ramnad Zemindary - which I have found, a more complicated task, than I was at first led to apprehend.

2nd From the nature of the last 5 or 6 Seasons, the Settlements could not [illegible] fair Average, for the Sub-division of t[illegible]ery; I have therefore been obliged to hav[illegible]counts of the Actual Collections prepared from Fusly 1212 to 1223 both years inclusive, on which an Average has been taken, as the fairest criterion to apportion the Estate - To examine the Accounts between 1 and 2 of 3000 Villages for a period of 12 Years, with that minuteness and exactitude so indispensably necessary, in effecting this arrangement, has naturally employed a greater portion of my time than I anticipated - I hope however to transmit in the course of 10 or 15 days the Statements required by your Board, accompanied with every information I have been enabled to obtain on the subject.

3rd When I received your instructions dated the 29th February, I was employed in the Settlement of Dindigul, which, together with the Jummabundy of Madura, I hastened to complete, in order that

I

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I might lose no time in adopting the measures directed by your Board, for the Sub-division of the Zemindary of Ramnad, in the prescribed Form.

4th. I did not proceed to make the necessary preparation for the Sale of the Zemindary in the first instance, [illegible] I entertained hopes, from the peculiarity of the [illegible]ces in which this Zemindary was involve[illegible] from the orders I had received from the Sudr Adawlut, through the Southern Court of Appeal, to continue it under Amaunie, that it might be postponed, in order to afford whatever party might receive a favorable Decree from the Court, the opportunity of paying off the heavy arrears on the Estate — The accompanying translates of two Arzees which have just been presented by the different parties, I deem it my duty to forward for your consideration.

[...]n Septr. 1815.

[V]ide No. 1 and 2.

5th. With regard to the Amount Settlement for Fusly 1225, I am unable at present to state the precise Amount, as the Crops are now gathering the total Proceeds of which, will not be ascertained until the middle of next Month — The failure of rain for Punjeh Cultivation, and the present low selling price of Grain in the Market, notwithstanding an Estimated encrease

of

of 15 or 20,000 Culloms of Paddy, will, I fear, produce a Decrease in the actual Settlement of this year below that of the last; but of this circumstance I shall not fail to afford your Board the earliest information.

Ramnad 5th July 1816.

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

To The President and Members
of the Board of Revenue.

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to report to you that Mr. Drury my Assistant has continued in charge of the Nuttum Talook and the Choukey since I addressed you in January last. He has likewise afforded me every assistance in completing the Settlements of Madura and Dindigul and is now employed in enquiring into the state of the Pagoda land in the Zemindary of Ramnad. I am moreover happy to add that Mr. Drury is making considerable progress in the Hindoostanee language.

Ramnad
6th July 1816.

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

To The President and Members
of the Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Para 1st.

I have the honor to forward the

2412 484

the list of Servants, in Statement No. 1. required by the 7th. Para of your Secretary's letter, under date 22nd. April last.

2d. In communicating to the Servants, the resolutions of the Government, I shall endeavour to imp[illegible] upon their minds, the duty, and fedility they [illegible] Government, taking so deeply into its consi[illegible] their welfare, and happiness. I trust that the measures in contemplation, will not fail in exciting those feelings, which they are so highly calculated to produce, and on every occasion, it will be my particular aim to point out to my Servants, the advantageous result of an upright, and honorable discharge of their public duties.

3d. There is one point however, on which I take the liberty to offer a remark. The orders now about tobe promulgated, appear to me, tobe calculated for the Revenue Department only, and not for the Salt, and Sayer, The greater part of the Choukeydars, and Salt Sumperdys in these districts, are of the Malabar Cast; whose pay in no one instance, exceeds the sum of 5 Pagodas per Mensem. What chance of promotion have these people. they cannot be appointed Ameens. Since if they were capable of

performing

performing the duties of the Situation, the object of holding out to the Revenue Serestadars the promotion, as proposed by the Regulation, would be destroyed. To what prospects of benefit in the Service can they look forward - To none - The approbation of their Superiors (however flo[illegible]) is but a poor recom=pence to their crav[illegible] - 5 Pagodas is their Pay, and such it w[illegible]r, unless some method be adopted for its improvement. I know not what measure, is more laudable and better calculated for this purpose, than that of holding out the reward, of individual exertion.

The English writers in the Hoozoor are required to be Men of respectable cha=racter and abilities - if they serve for 20 Years and are pro=moted to the high=est Situation, the utmost they can re=ceive is 30 Pagodas [illegible], would it not then be ad=visable to propose a Scale of allowance for these particu=lar people, as well as for Seristadars!

4. I cannot refrain from again expressing with all due deference, the opinion I entertain, of a favourable result, in the Allowance of a percentage on an encrease of collections, and Sale in these 2 depart=ments, and although the proposition be novel, It will not on that account, I trust, be abandoned.

5. In these 2 departments the door is open to greater abuses, and more easily shut upon investiga=tion, and detection, than in other branches of Reve=nue. You must be well aware how easily a Sayer Servant can levy the duties of Government, and the Salt Servants dispose of Salt, without bringing the

proceeds

proceeds to account, and we have little chance of detecting their Embezzlements, as the Merchants are generally in league with them - A Tahsildar cannot well suppress cultivation without incurring the greatest risk. the fields themselves will remain as an Evidence to convict him.

6th [illegible] abuses entirely in the Salt, and Sayer [illegible]ent, will I am afraid be impossible If we can suggest a measure which holds out a prospect of reforming them, - The experiment should be attempted - Nothing can be better adapted for this purpose I think then to call forth the feelings of people, and to render their interest dependent on their exertions, for I will ask if nature does not excite the performance of duty with more zeal and diligence, where the reward is proportionate to their exertions - If such be allowed, the adoption of the measure I have proposed will amend, in some degree at least, the surreptitious practises of the Servants in general, - and if it does not entirely it may ultimately tend to the improvement of a Revenue which is so open to abuse.

7th In statement No. 2. is shewn the allowance to which the Head Serishtadar is

now

now entitled - with the difference between that and his present Salary. —

(Signed) A. Peter
Collr.

Ramnad
9th July 1816.

To the Secretary to the Board of Superintendence
for the College

Sir,

I have be[en favoured] with your letter of 17th April last, enc[losing copy] of a Correspondence with Government relative to the Establishment of Seminaries, for the education of Native public Servants.

As it is stated, that Young Men after being taught to read and write, are then turned adrift to shift for themselves, it is not to remedy any deficiency, in this part of their Education, that the proposed Seminaries are tobe established - but it is supposed, by such establishments, that their morals will be improved and that they will ultimately by receiving a good education, be disposed to act with honesty towards their employers.

If such be the expectation, I much fear it will end in disappointment - for in my opinion, the Character of the Native must be changed altogether, before such an object can be accomplished. The fact is, a native, whatever his Situation or rank may be, does not attach that degree of criminality - which they ought, to the receiving of money, that may be voluntarily tendered to him - Look to the native Governments and it will be found, that few things were ever done

without a bribe - it was considered as much a Mamool with them, as a fee to a lawyer for his opinion - Look again to the lower orders of people - their chief object is to make the most of their situation, and this propensity imbibed, if I may be allowed the expression with their "Mothers milk" will I fear however harsh it may appear / and every day confirms me in the truth [illegible] be more decidedly checked, by the dread of pu[illegible] than by the inculcation of the prin[illegible] a good education, or even the hope of future p[illegible]motion and reward. -

When Mr. Ross states that young men after attaining a certain age, and having been taught to read and write, are turned a drift in the world he must allude, I should imagine, more to the lower classes of people, than to the higher - From the Knowledge which I possess of the latter class, I know that they consider it their duty, not only to give their children the best education they can afford, but likewise to maintain them until an opportunity offers, of their being provided for - In the lower classes again, I think it will be found on En-quiry, that tho' a young man may be sent forth to seek his fortune - Yet his family deem it their duty to maintain him, as far as their means will admit of, until he is provided for - he, then is Saddled with his share of relations which the laws of his Cast, oblige him to maintain - they may be laudable in some respects, yet it has its atten[illegible] frequently lead such pro[illegible] of frauds, for the sake of

their

their kindred, which they might otherwise, perhaps, have avoided – would a better education produce a change in this practise – for how is it possible for a man on a Salary of five Pagodas per Mensem, to provide for a family of 10. or 15. persons, without resorting to fraudulent Measures –?

I therefore do [illegible] conceive, that any good will be derived fr[illegible] proposed Institutions. As I fear the pro[illegible] fraud and Embezzle[illegible] is too innately engr[illegible] the Native bozom to be easily eradicated – and the greatest inducement with a Native to act with rectitude, and fidelity in his public duty – will arise more from compulsion than from lenient measures.

Ramnad
13th July 1816.

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

To The President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue.

Gentlemen,

1. I beg to assure your Board that the transmission of an Advertisement, for the sale of the 3 Estates, Sundyoor, Madoor, and Nellaeottah, has not been delayed from any inattention on my part to your instruction – I was desirous of communicating with the Poligars previous to adopting such a measure – and for this purpose had directed them to attend at my Cutcherry – only one has ma[illegible] however have ascertain=ed [illegible] over [illegible] ist in refusing to assign the [illegible] therefore forward [illegible] which I

245 490

trust will be deemed sufficient.

2^d. A Sub-division of these Estates I con=sider will be of no use as the proceeds of sales would not liquidate the balance against them and I apprehend your Board will not dispose of them unless the amount bidden equals the total sum of the Arrears.

3^d. With respect to the provision to be made to the [illegible], I shall have the honor of forward=ing [illegible] Board such sentiments as may arise from [illegible]mmunications with them.

Ramnad
16th July 1816.

(Signed) R. Peter
Coll^r.

Advertisement.

Notice is hereby given that on the 26th Augt next the following Estates will be put up to sale by Public Auction at the Cutcherry of the Collector in Madura and Dindigul, in satis=faction of Arrears of Revenue.

Sundyoor.
Maddoor.
Nellacottah.

Further particulars may be known on appli=cation at the Cutcherry of the Collector.

(Signed) R. Peter
Coll^r.

To The President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Para 1st. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Secretary's letter under date 2^d May and to forward a statement of proposals

[...]tched 9th.

for

for the rent of Arrack for Fusly 1226 which I have been unable to transmit at an earlier period as no offers were received until within these few days, for the rent of Dindigul and several of the Zemindaries - The Number of Shops in 25 was the same as are proposed for Fusly 26. I request to be informed if it is a list of the Names of the Villages in which the Shops [illegible] that is required by your Board - or [illegible] statement of their number as now forwarded.

2d. I have endeavoured to impress on the renters of Arrack for the present year the necessity of a strict adherence to the Regulations in the Manufacture and disposal of it, at the same time assured them of my determination to carry into execution any parts of the Regulations from which they may be found to deviate.

3d. Licences, according to the prescribed form, were issued to the Renters in Fusly 24th but I cannot learn that it has been usual for the sub-renters to receive similar licences from the Renters - tho' in one or two instances which have come before me - on the occasion of a disagreement between the parties I informed them of the necessity which existed for their adherence to the Regulations.

25. I should imagine must be meant.

4th. In this District there are no Cantonements of European soldiers; in consequence the limits have not been defined by any Boundary Mark.

5th. No prosecutions were instituted by me in Fusly 26.

Nor

246 692

for a Breach of the latter part of Section IX. of Regulation I. of 1808.– The Magistrate of Coimbatore was furnished with the list required by Section XII but not the Magistrates of Madura and Trichinopoly Lists for the present year are now preparing and will be forwarded to each Magistrate when your Sanction to the Proposals has been received. Sec:tion the XV. has been attended to – and as I have heard [illegible] complaints, I conclude it has been obeyed [illegible]

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

Ramnad[illegible]
17th. July 1816.

To The President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue.

Gentlemen,

Para 1st. The Settlements of the last four or five years, having been so low in consequence of bad seasons and decrease in the Population by deaths and Emigration – they could not be taken, as just grounds, upon which a fair average might be formed to subdivide the Zemindary into Mittahs for the purpose of sale in order to liquidate the Balances outstanding against it – I have therefore deemed it necessary as stated in my Communication to your Board on the 5th. Instant, to prepare Statements of the Actual Collections of each Year since 1212. which I now beg to lay before you, and from which Your Board will be enabled to determine how far the average now proposed may be correctly estimated – I must at the same time observe that the

the Accounts from which these Statements have been prepared, have been taken chiefly from the Duffters in the Cutcherry - as not one Curnom had more than two or three years Accounts by him and in few instance have I found them complete - On a Comparison however of such as they possessed, with the Duftters there has appeared so little variation that I have no reason to doubt the correctness of the Statement [illegible] transmitted.

2d. This Statement [illegible] be found to differ from that transm[illegible] [illegible]om Dindigul, It has been more minutely examined and Corrected with every advantage that could arise from a personal investigation on the spot.

3d. The Ramnad Zemindary Comprises 17 Talooks containing upwards of 2000 Ain and Davustanom Villages which have been subdivided into 72 Mittahs and every precaution has been taken to form them as compactly as possible and that the whole of the lands watered by one Tank should be included in one Subdivision.

4th. I had prepared Statement No 2. in the first instance as it appeared to me, that the Poroopoo in full ought to be entered, in each Mittah - it being a fixed revenue, payable in bad or good seasons and not liable to fluctuation as the Land revenue - it occurring to me however, that your Board might entertain a different opinion - I have prepared another Statement No 3. making the same deduction on the Poroopoo as the Land Revenue in order that you might determine which of the two, it may be the more desirable to adopt, The Statement No 2. appears to me the most satisfactory as in some Mittahs

the greater portion of revenue payable to Gov[t]
is derived from Poroopoo - if therefore a general
deduction be made from the Land revenue and
Poroopoo together as in No 3 - the purchasers of
such Mittahs will take to themselves the sur-
plus of the Poroopoo as clear profit, while the
purchasers of other Mittahs in which Poroopoo
is unknown, must depend entirely on their own
exer[illegible] good seasons for their profit - as
a de[illegible] has been made on an Average of
Actua[illegible]ctions on the Cultivation for a
number of years exclusive of any Poroopoo -
If for instance in the Subdivision Moodoocu-
vide B. in No 3 colum - in the Talook Pullymuddom in which
the Poroopoo Amounts to 3037 - 15 A deduction
of 39 - 9 - 80½ p[r] Cent should be made - the
purchasers certain Annual profit on Poroopoo
alone would be upwards of 1100 Pagodas - while
another proprietor paying the same revenue
must abide the chance of a bad or good season
for his profit.

5th. Since publishing your Advertisement the
Rannee and her husband have been with me - they
represented to me the peculiarities of their case
and recapitulated every thing contained in the
Petition - I had the honor to forward to you on
the 5th - In conclusion of their visit they begged
to ascertain if they might be the purchasers of
any of the Mittahs - In Answer I informed them, that
defaulters were precluded, from such an Act, and they
added that if the Zemindary was delivered over to
them, they would pay the balance within a given
period - but that this was impracticable as
the Sudr Adawlut had directed the Collector

vide No 4.

to continue the Estate under attachment until final issue of the Suit and they expressed a hope that the sale of any part of the Estate might be postponed until such decision had passed. I informed them of my final instructions and gave them to understand that I would communicate to your Board the heads of our conversation, adding that any further instructions conveyed to me that might hold out a possibility of the fulfil[illegible] their wishes should be made known [illegible]

6th. In case of the [illegible] sale of any part the Zemindary. I request to be informed whether either of the disputing parties are allowed to become purchasers, by Section XIV. Regulation XV. 1802.

7th. In Statement No 4 is an Estimate of the Revenue expected to be realized for Fusly 1225.

8th. In the early part of the season - No rain fell in time - in consequence there is a decrease in the dry Cultivation - In the wet, there is an increase, on Fusly 24. but the present low selling prices of grain, will scarcely make the Amount sales, equal to that of last year - In this Zemindary - the Actual Amount of Jummahbundy - from the Kists on the wet Cultivation being received in Kind, - cannot be correctly ascertained, until the middle or end of August - up to which period the Crops will be reaping.

9th. The Estimate for the Fusly is 1,22,519-4-10. being only 2977-39-76. less than Fusly 24. -

10th. For the Amount Collection and Balance vide No 4. The grain which has been sold, will be paid for as it is delivered over to the purchasers - and I hope shortly to be enabled, to

dispose

dispose of the greater part of the remaining quantity.

vide Statement No 5. 11th The entire Balance of the Zemindary including Interest, for the Arrears of Fuslies 23 and 24. and Arrear for 25. Amounts to ... 175.926. 8. 29

To liquidate this Amount there is a Balance for Fusly 1224 ... 11306. 5. 14.

No 6. The greater part of which I hope to Collect in the [illegible] next Month [illegible] Balance of Exp[illegible]ctions

No 4. for 12[illegible] .... 70259. 11. 15. ... 81.565. 16. 29

Balance ... 94360. 37. ..

Ramnad 21st July 1816. (Signed) R Peter Collr.

To The President and Members of the Board of Revenue.

Gentlemen,

In consequence of the Inhabitants in several Villages having lost a great number of their Cultivating Cattle by a disease called the Nauney, I have found it necessary to make a further Advance of Tuckavee to them than was at first estimated — In the lately Assumed Zemindary, it has also been necessary to make Advances to the Ryots — Statements of which I have the honor to forward, and which I hope will meet with your sanction.

Comedy 15th August 1816. (Signed) R. Peter Collr.

To.

To The President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue.

Gentlemen,

1. I think it right to transmit to you the Accompanying Petition received from Mootton Curpah Taven - a State Prisoner in the Fort of Ramnad.

2. On a refe[rence to] the records in your Office it will be [seen tha]t this person acted a very conspicuou[s part i]n the disturbance to the Southward in the Years 1800/1. He was a Pretender to the Pullum of Ramnad, and a reward of 1000 Chuckts was offered for his apprehension.

3. The Prisoner is now far advanced in age and has suffered from an imprisonment during the period of fifteen Years - His release I cannot conceive would be attended with any dangerous consequence, and 15 Years of Confinement may be deemed a sufficient atonement for the Crimes he may have been guilty of - His release would be considered by the Natives of the Country an act of Clemency on the part of the British Government, and would shew them however determined it might be, to punish an offence, it is ever ready to be Merciful to a penitent.

4. Should your Board concur with me in these sentiments - I recommend that Moottoo Curpah Taven be released on his present pension - on his giving the necessary

Security

security to the Magistrate for his appearance when required.

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

Comedy
15th August 1816.

To The Resident
at Travancore

Sir,

In consequence of Instructions which I have [illegible] from the Board of Revenue to de[illegible] my Assistant Mr. Drury as Commissioner on the part of the British Government for determining the disputes regarding the boundaries of Travancore, I have the honor to inform you that he will leave Madura this Evening for Cochin.

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

Madura
7th Septr. 1816.

To The President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue.

Gentlemen,

1st. It is with much regret I have to report the great want of rain in every part of the District. Scarcely a shower has fallen for the last six weeks or two Months, and I much fear if we have not some showers shortly, a great portion of the Cultivation will perish for want of water. Even in Dindigul, which is so surrounded by Hills the failure has been equal, added to which

not

not a drop of water has come into the River this year
from the Malabar Monsoon.

3d. A Statement of the extent of Cultivation
up to the 30th of this Month shall be forwarded as soon
as prepared.

Madura (Signed) R. Peter
27th Septr. 18[illegible] Collr.

To The Presiden[t and Me]mbers
of the
<u>Board of Revenue.</u>

Gentlemen,

Para 1st. I have the honor to forward
Moyenzabitah Statements &ca. for these Districts
for Fusly 1226.

2d. In the present Statements are included
the Moyenzabitahs of all the Zemindaries which
have been assumed to which I hope to receive your
Sanction.

3d. In Madura and Dindigul there is an
increase in the estimated "Charges Extraordinary"
of the present fusly of 3. 19. 55 3¾/16 in the former and
of 2. 19. 5 12½/16 in the latter this is owing to the
Amount advanced for Tuccauvey being greater than
in the preceding Year and to a part of the [S]ums
estimated for Murramut for fusly 1225 (the works
not having been completed) being again entered
in the estimate for the present year.

4th. In Madura there is a decrease of 4. 39.
13 13¼/16 under the Head of "Charges General" this has
been occasioned by several Zemindaries having
been

been assumed and entered under the Head of Land Revenue.

5th. Of the remaining trifling differences in the percentage - I trust, no observations will be considered necessary - I shall therefore only solicit your sanction to the Estimates now forwarded.

Madura
1st. Octr. 1816.

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

To [illegible]sident and Members
of the
Board of Revenue.

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Secretary's letter of the 19th August directing me to report; that I had "taken measures to prevent the loss of any large quantity of Salt during the ensuing Monsoon" - Previous to receiving it, I had directed the Salt Ameen and other Servants to visit each pan and to adopt every measures for the preservation of the Salt during the rains by covering it with Earth &c.

2d. In my letter of the 13th April 1813 I forwarded an Estimate for the erection of Godowns. I think if I were permitted to build them - they would not only preserve the Salt better - but would likewise prevent a good deal of cheating and theft which must now exist, from the present exposed state of the Heaps.

Madura
3d. October 1816.

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

To the Commissioners

Madras

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23rd Ultimo. As many Copies of the [illegible]lations as I have been enabled to have [illegible]ed, have been distributed throughout the Dist[illegible]. I gave notice on the 3rd Instant, that they were to be acted upon immediately.

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

Madura
10th Octr. 1816.

To the Accountant General

Fort St. George

Sir,

I have the honor to forward a Certificate granted by the Zillah Court of this Station, of Dunnoo Sing having proved before the Court by witnesses that he is the entire and sole Heir, to all property left by the late Sookalaula Subidar. I shall therefore be obliged, by your giving an order on my Treasury for the Amount of Interest due.

Madura
10th Octr. 1816.

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

This-

251 502

This is to Certify that Dunnoo Sing only surviving Son of the late Sookalaula Subidar, has this twenty fourth Day of September 1816 appeared before me in the Zillah Court of this Zillah, produced the Will passed by his late Father in his favor, and has further by the Evidence and oaths of Hiralaul and Soonaroy Pillay satisfactorily proved to the Court that he is the [illegible] and sole Heir to all property left by the Late [illegible]alaula Subidar, and further it is stated in the above alluded to Will, that there is a certain Companys Bond drawn out in the name of Sooka-laula for Sixty seven thousand Sicca Rupees which Dunnoo Sing is at liberty to dispose of, as he may think fit.

(Signed) W. O. Shakespear
Judge

To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to forward Statement Comparative, between the Cultivation of the last and present year up to 30th September.

In this Statement your Board will observe, that out of 65720-14½ Cawnies of Poonjah land, which the Inhabitants in Dindigul and Madura had ploughed- only 33028-11¼ have been sown- this is entirely owing to the total failure of the early rains- but as some hard Showers have fallen pretty generally over the District, I trust the Inhabitants will be enabled for to carry on their Cultivation (Poonjah) to a Considerable extent.

Madura 15th Octr. 1816.

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your secretary's letter of 8th July last, returning the enclosures forwarded with my letter of the 29th June - and desiring that I would attentively re-consider, each individual case and submit those [illegible] the Board, that appeared to call in a sheval [illegible] for relief from Government.

Previously [illegible] submitting the list of Yomeahs to your Board, I had made enquiry into the circumstances of each particular case - and as I considered them objects of charity, I recommended them as such to your consideration - I have now the honor to forward a statement with additional remarks, which I trust will be deemed sufficient to obtain the Yomeah for the parties as they are really objects deserving of relief.

Madura
18th Octr. 1816.

(signed) R. Peter
Collr.

To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

Para 1st
I have delayed thus long replying to the 6th Para of your secretary's letter of the 8th August - as I had received no proposals for the grain which remained unsold in the Ramnad Country until within these few days.

2d
I have now much pleasure in stating that nearly the whole has been disposed of - and the Amount of sales will be collected according to the Agreements entered into by the Merchants.

The

252 504

3^d. The Collections after deducting Sib[...] charges &ca. up to the 12th of this Month were 82[...] 17. 37 for fusly 25 and 5331. 33. 40. for fusly 24 lea[ving] a Balance in the former year of 12532. 37. 43. and [in] the latter of 4134. 11. 40.

4th. In consequence of my having ascertain[ed] that a considerable Extent of Cultivation had been concealed by the Ambalagars and Kurnums my Re[venue] charee Servants have been so disposed in makin[g] Examinations, that I have not been able to prep[are] the different statements, I wish to transmit to y[our] Board but as these Examinations are now nearly completed I hope to be enabled at an early peri[od] to forward them with answers to the different queries of your Board.

(Signed) R. Peter
Coll^r.

Mellore
31st. Octr. 1816.

To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen

Not having taken the oath, as int[ended] in Section III Regulation II A. D. 1803 since my appointment, as Collector, I have the honor to inform you, that I took it this day. Copy of which I forwa[rd] as directed by your Secretary's letter of the 22^d. August.

M^r. Drury I believe, took the prescribed oath previous to his leaving Madras on being appointed Assistant under me.

(Signed) R. Peter
Coll^r.

Mellore
31st. Octr. 1816.

To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen

Pattal 1st. I have the honor to forward the
Diary

2d. My reasons for issuing the order on the 10th of May to the Umatarah Zemindar was this – Having heard, that he had enticed away several Inhabitants from the Neighbouring Villages, by offering them Lands, at a very reduced rate – I considered he had no right to do so – and issued the order accordingly – If such an act be admitted Zemindars might induce [illegible] large portion of Cultivators to leave the Circar Villages which would cause no inconsiderable falling off in Cultivation and Consequently in Revenue.

3d. With regard to levying both duties on Tobacco going to Tondimans Country, it was occasioned by the Merchants having taken out a Rowanah for the Trichinopoly District, and afterwards proceeding to Tondimans Country with their Goods – As they deviated from their route, the double duty was directed to be Collected.

4. As I am now on this subject I request to be informed, if hereafter any distinction is to be made in the levy of duties on Goods passing into Tondiman's Country.

Madura
11th Novr. 1816.

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue.

Gentlemen,

Parag 1st. Mr. Drury having returned from Cochin – I request to know, whether he is entitled to any remuneration exclusive of Palanquin allowance,
for

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for the expenses incurred on the Journey to and from that place being altogether, a distance of upwards of 500 Miles.

2d. The lateness of the season, and the necessity of a survey previous to any attempt, to decide on the disputed claims of the Travancore Government, have appeared indispensible reasons for the delay of the Business of the Commission. On the approach of the season favorable to an Enquiry in the vicinity of the Hills, which may occur about June next. I shall not fail to communicate with your Board upon the subject. In the mean time I beg to state, my decided opinion that the next meeting of the Commission, should take place in the province of Dindigal in the immediate neighbourhood of which, the disputed boundary is situated.

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

Madura
11th Novr. 1816.

To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

In consequence of the transfer of the duties of the Police Department, to Collectors I find that my Revenue Establishment, is perfectly inadequate to the additional duties, without an increase of Servants. I have therefore the honor to forward a list of those I am desirous of employing and shall be obliged by your obtaining the Sanction of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council for my employing them. I must at the same time state, that had my present Establishment been equal to the additional duties imposed on it, by the new Regulations

the

the present application would not have been made but as it is scarcely equal to the Revenue duties it has now to perform, I trust my request will be complied with.

Madura 21st Nov. 1816. (Signed) R. Peter Collr.

To the President and Members of the Board of Revenue.

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Secretary's letter of the 21st Instant, enclosing a Petition from Vencata row, late Sheristadar of Wootumpollam. In consequence of the Petitioner, having lost the use of his limbs I considered him a fit object of Charity and recommended that he should be pensioned on 4 Pagodas per Mensem, but I was informed by the Secretary to the Native Pension fund, that the Committee were precluded from bringing his case, to the notice of Government, as the rules of the fund did not provide for the grant of a pension, to others, than the widows and children of deceased Subscribers. As the Petitioner is perfectly helpless and is a servant of 10 or 12 years standing and as he lost the use of his limbs in the service of the Circar, I would recommend him, as an object worthy of a pension.

vide No. 1.

vide No. 2.

Madura 30th Nov. 1816. (Signed) R. Peter Collr.

No. 1.

Extract from the Register of Claims on the Native Pension Fund dated 3d July 1816.

The Sheristadar Vencata row having the Rheumatism is deprived of the use of one entire side of the body and is thereby rendered totally unable to attend to his Duty, he is therefore recommended as a fit object for the Pension.

(A true Extract)

No. 2.

No. 2

Extract of a letter from the Secretary of the Native Pension Fund dated 6th September 1816.

The Committee are precluded from bringing the application in favor of the late Sheristadar Vencatarow to the Notice of Government, the rules of the fund not providing for the grant of any Pensions to others than to widows and children of deceased subscribers.

(A true Extract)

To the President and Members
of the
Board of Revenue

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Secretary's letter of the 11th Novr. with its enclosures and directing me to state, whether it is advisable in my opinion to prohibit the export of Salt from Bombay to Travancore, with reference to the Interests of the Monopoly in the District under my charge, and at the same time to furnish a return of the salt sold for exportation to Travancore within the last three years. In reply I have to state that no Salt has been exported from the Pans in this District, owing to the last three years, and that consequently the exportation of Salt from Bombay to Travancore will not interfere with the interests of the Monopoly in this District.

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

Madura 30th Novr. 1816.

To

To the Secretary to the

Board of Revenue

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 28th Ultimo which accompanied 500 Salt Rowanahs – In it, it is stated that the full number of Rowanahs (2000) applied for has been sent, but those only stated in the Margin have been received – I shall therefore be obliged by your informing me when the 500 Rowanahs which are missing were despatched.

Dated 26th Octr. 1816. Rowanahs ... 500.
Do. 23rd Novr. Do. ... 500.
Do. 28th Do. Do. ... 500.
Rowanahs 1500.

Madura 16th Decr. 1816.

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

To the President and Members of the

Board of Revenue.

Gentlemen,

Mr. Drury not having taken the Oath required by Section III. Regulation II. A. D. 1803 he took it this day – Copy of which I have now the honor to forward as directed by your Secretary's letter of the 22d. August last.

Madura 26th Decr. 1816.

(Signed) R. Peter
Collr.

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I G. D. [illegible] do promise and swear that I will, to the utmost of my Judgment, well and faithfully execute & discharge the duties of an Officer of Revenue reposed in & committed to me, by the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies, and that I will not demand, take, or accept, directly or indirectly, by myself or by any other person for my use, or on my behalf, of or from any Rajah, Zemindar, Talookdar, Poligar, Farmer Renter or Ryot, or from any person paying or liable to pay any tribute, Rent or Tax, to or for the use of the said United Company, any Sum of money or other valuable thing, by way of gift, present or otherwise, over & above or besides and except the actual Tribute, Rent or Tax, Authorized to be taken by and for the use of the said United Company; and that I will justly and truly Account for Answer and pay all the rents, Duties, and other Revenues and Sums of money which shall come to my hands or to the hands of any person or persons in trust for or Employed by me, as an Officer of the Revenues of the said Company unto the said United Company.

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2. (Signed) J. D. Drury
H. Asst. Collr.

Taken & Subscribed to, before me, this
twenty sixth day of December A.D. 1816.
(Signed) W. O. Shakespear
Judge